2022

NEW YORK YANKEES

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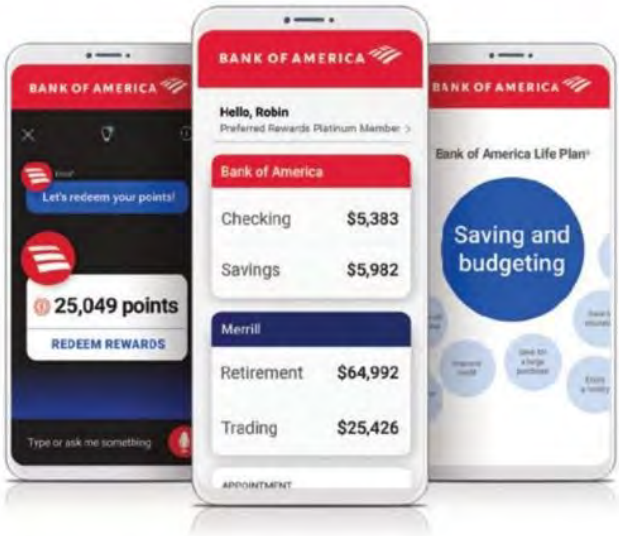

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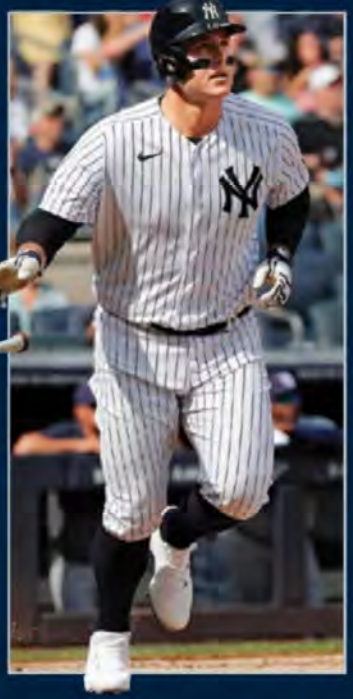

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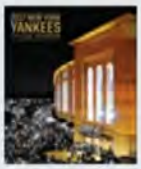

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Running Down a Dream

As he chases baseball's ultimate prize, Aaron Judge keeps working to become the most complete player possible

By Alfred Santasiere III

Aaron Judge's career stats more than speak for themselves. If you wanted to conduct any analysis of the Yankees right fielder's impact just by pointing your browser toward his Baseball Reference page, you'd get a pretty solid sense of the guy. But the magnetic superstar is more than a collection of numbers and milestones. It's the road to those feats — the unending work and determination to push further — that make his star shine brightest.

Since his major league debut in 2016, Judge had amassed 158 home runs entering 2022, including 52 in his American League Rookie of the Year season of 2017. Last year, Judge put together another outstanding campaign that yielded a top-five finish in the 2021 AL MVP race, posting a career-high .287 batting average with 39 home runs, 24 doubles and 98 RBI in 148 games. He also earned his third All-Star nod and second Silver Slugger Award in his fifth full season in the big leagues.

From his home in California, Judge took some time to discuss his career and his team with *Yankees Magazine* editor-in-chief Alfred Santasiere III.

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YANKEES MAGAZINE: *How do you feel your offseason regimen heading into the 2021 season helped you during the day-to-day grind of last summer?*

AARON JUDGE: I've tried different things every year since I got into pro ball. You see other players doing things that work, and naturally, you want to copy them. I liked what I did in the offseason leading into 2021, changing a few things and adding in some yoga. Most of what I did was the same as what I had done in previous years, but it's good to change a few things here and there. I think the overall program I had helped me to be productive on a more consistent basis.

YM: *How closely has your work this offseason mirrored what you did previously?*

AJ: This offseason has been different from the one I had the previous year. You're always trying to improve and get further in your game. If there are any holes, anything you need to work on, you attack those. I'm doing more base running work and speed work to improve that part of my game. I want to be a complete player, and stealing bases is one thing I really want to improve on. I feel like that will help our team out.

YM: *How satisfying is it to look back on 2021, a season in which you played in almost all of your team's games and put together a really complete season at the plate and in the field?*

AJ: When you're a leader on the team, you have to be out there with your soldiers. That's the most important thing. For me, not getting hurt at all was a big-time thing. If not for COVID, I would have played in 158 games. I feel like if I'm out there, I'm going to put up the numbers that will help my team win. If you're missing time, you can't help your team win that much. You can support your teammates and be a great cheerleader, but that's not going to have a direct impact on how many games you win. When you're able to go out there every single day and put up good numbers and do the little things that help win ballgames, you're a good player. It's as simple as that. So, for me to be out there and not have some freak accident where I dive for a ball and break a rib or get hit by a pitch and miss a few months, it was a good season.

YM: *In an era when batting averages across the board have really plummeted, you just posted the highest batting average of your career, hitting .287 in 550 at-bats. How much pride do you take in being able to put together such successful at-bats?*

AJ: Honestly, I wasn't too happy with it. Hitting .287 wasn't a goal I had for the year, and I think I can improve on it in the future. I'll take it, but hopefully this year I will hit my goal for batting average. It's really about keeping it simple at the plate. If you come to the plate with the "see ball, hit ball" approach, and you do the little things like moving guys over, taking RBIs when you can and taking singles when you can, that will translate into a good year and a good batting average. I was focused on trying to play a little smarter throughout the season, recognizing what the defense was giving me. If opposing teams were going to make it easier to get on base by hitting the ball the other way, or if they were going to give me an RBI on a sac fly, I wanted to go out and take those things rather than trying to hit a home run.

Judge had a healthy and productive 2021 season, finishing fourth in the AL MVP voting, but the right fielder believes that he can be even better in 2022. One area in particular that he is focused on is base running. "I want to be a complete player, and stealing bases is one thing I really want to improve on," he says. "I feel like that will help our team out."

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YM: *How important was it for you to capture your second Silver Slugger Award, four years after taking home your first?*

AJ: I'm not playing for awards; I'm playing to win and to bring a championship back to New York. But, to be recognized like that, especially when you consider who the other finalists for the award were, spoke volumes for how well you have to play to even be in the running for the award. It's an incredible honor, and I'm completely humbled by it. It's a cool accolade, and for me, it really goes back to dedication and the help I've gotten from hitting coaches and so many great teammates along the road. Those guys put me in the position I'm in and motivated and pushed me. I hope I can get a few more Silver Sluggers — along with a championship.

YM: *In recent interviews, you've discussed the desire you have to play your entire career in pinstripes, even calling it a significant goal you have. What does playing for the Yankees and representing the team and New York City mean to you?*

AJ: It's tough to describe in a couple of words.

YM: *Well, you can use as many words as you'd like.*

AJ: I don't want you to be here all day, but I wake up every morning, and it feels like a dream. Getting to walk out onto the field at Yankee Stadium, wearing the pinstripes, hearing the roll call, being around so many legends — guys like Reggie Jackson and Goose Gossage over the years, and now you've got CC Sabathia coming into the building — is pretty surreal. When you talk to those guys, as well as Mariano Rivera and Derek Jeter, you quickly learn what it means to wear this uniform. They talk

Now entering his seventh season in the big leagues, Judge embraces everything that comes with putting on a Yankees uniform. From connecting with fans to carrying on the traditions established by the greats who came before him, Judge exemplifies – and appreciates – what it means to be a Yankee. "I wake up every morning, and it feels like a dream," he says. "This is what every baseball player wanted to do when they were little kids: wear the Yankees' uniform."

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about the pride they have in putting on the pinstripes, and that always gets me fired up. I want to do everything I can to represent this uniform in the best way possible. When you see the passion that our fans have and the energy that they bring to the Stadium every single night, you want to play well every time you step on the field, at home or on the road. When you play for the Yankees and you talk to other players around the league, it's easy to get a sense of how special it is to play in New York. This is the mecca. This is where you want to play. This is what every baseball player wanted to do when they were little kids: wear the Yankees' uniform. I feel extremely humbled to have gotten drafted by the Yankees, to make it up to the big leagues with this organization and to be here for as long as I've been.

YM: *As the parent of a baseball player in his teens, I've seen more No. 99 jerseys over the last five years than I ever could have imagined — especially because I can't remember seeing* any *before you broke into the majors. How does it make you feel to know that so many young ballplayers want to emulate you?*

AJ: That gives me the chills to think about. Some of my buddies tell me that every Little League team they see has one kid wearing No. 99. That's pretty crazy, but it makes me step back and think about the type of impact I have. So many kids out there are watching baseball. They're watching everything we do, the good and the bad. I really try to be a positive role model. I try to play the game the right way and do whatever I can to show kids that if you put in hard work and you have a smile on your face, anything is possible. You could be the right fielder for the New York Yankees. This game has given me so much, and the Yankees have given me so much. It's important to me to give back to the players who are coming up behind me. This was already a great organization before I got here, but I want to make this place better for the guys who come up through the organization in the years to come.

"IT'S A TOUGH COUPLE OF AT-BATS FOR ANY PITCHER WHEN YOU HAVE TO FACE ME AND HIM, ESPECIALLY IF WE'RE BOTH HITTING WELL." —JUDGE ON STANTON [L]

YM: *Shifting back to on-field matters, for the first time since 2018, you and Giancarlo Stanton were in the lineup at the same time for the majority of the team's games in 2021. What did he mean to the Yankees last season?*

AJ: Big G is a special talent and a special person. I don't think a lot of people get to see that because he's pretty quiet, and he sticks to business. But I learned a lot from him last year. I wanted him to hit behind me; it's a tough couple of at-bats for any pitcher when you have to face me and him, especially if we're both hitting well. He's a student of the game and a leader in our clubhouse. He goes about his business like a true professional. He's always talking with the younger guys whenever they want to ask him about his approach, his routine in the cage or anything else. He's always willing to stay late or come in early to help other guys, including me. When he came here in 2018, I couldn't wait to talk with him about the things he did to be so successful. I wanted to emulate that; I wanted to be the player he was. He's one of a kind, and we're lucky to have him in pinstripes. Last year was especially fun with him out there every night.

YM: *Like Giancarlo did, you've amassed quite a few homers before your 30th birthday. For a statistic that is so celebrated, how important do you feel that part of your game is?*

AJ: It's a byproduct of being 6-foot-7 and 270 pounds. It comes with it. If I make contact with the ball, there's a good chance that it's

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going to go a long way. It's also one reason I like hitting near the top of the lineup. If DJ [LeMahieu] leads off the game with a base hit, which he usually does, I have the chance to make it a 2-0 ballgame within the first 10 pitches. When you're able to give your pitcher that type of run support early in the game, it allows him to get into a groove and really execute his pitches. It keeps the pitcher calm. It's one aspect of my game that I'm able to use to help the team, but at the same time, I try not to be too one-dimensional. I try to be a contact guy when I need to or when the situation calls for it.

YM: *How would you compare your life today, as you head into your sixth full season, with what it was like when you were a rookie in 2017?*

AJ: Not much has changed. It's still pretty crazy. My first year was a whirlwind. You never know what to expect or how you're going to do when you're a rookie. You put in all of this work in the offseason, and you are hoping and praying that it's going to turn out the way you want it to. But at that point in your career, you really don't know. I think that's the beauty in this game. That was a surreal experience; that's when I first saw some 99 jerseys showing up at the Stadium. I couldn't believe that, but you fast-forward, it still feels like a whirlwind. I still feel like we have a great opportunity to win, and I'm happy to still be wearing pinstripes six years down the road now.

At 6-foot-7 and with a majestic, powerful swing, Judge is one of Major League Baseball's premier home run hitters. His 39 homers and 98 RBI led the team in 2021, but Judge is hardly a one-trick pony. He tailors his approach to each individual situation, taking what the pitcher gives him and sometimes just making contact in order to advance a base runner – all the things that go into being a well-rounded hitter.

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YM: *Your teams have come close to achieving the goal that means the most to you, winning a championship. When you look back on the last five years, what are the emotions you feel about having fallen just short of championship glory?*

AJ: It's a disappointment when you don't win the World Series. That's why we show up at spring training; that's why we work so hard. It's not to play well in April or even to win a Silver Slugger, it's all about winning a ring. So, there's some disappointment that I feel about not sealing the deal yet, but that's what the beauty is of always having next year. You can shake off what happened the year before. You keep some of it in your memory bank to fuel you on those days in July and August when it's tough to do the extra work. You can use it as fuel or as a setback. We have a lot of guys who use it as fuel and use it to prepare themselves for the next season. I feel like I'm certainly one of those guys.

YM: *What has it been like to play for Aaron Boone over the last four seasons?*

AJ: I'm extremely excited that we were able to sign Aaron back for three more years. I wish we could have signed him for 10 more years. He's won a lot of games in his first few years, and he's a stable force in our clubhouse. It doesn't matter if we are up by 10 runs or we are getting our butts kicked, he's the same guy. He continues to motivate us, and at the big-league level, that's what you need. You need a guy who the players can lean on. He's been there before. He's a former big-league player, and he's played in big moments. He's the type of guy that when you look

"WHEN YOUR LEADER IS SOMEONE WHO IS ALWAYS LOCKED IN, IS NEVER NEGATIVE AND NEVER THROWS IN THE TOWEL, THAT'S SOMETHING SPECIAL. WE'VE COME A LONG WAY WITH [BOONE], AND WE'RE GOING TO FINISH THE DEAL WITH HIM." —JUDGE

down at him at the end of the bench, he's always positive. For the players, when your leader is someone who is always locked in, is never negative and never throws in the towel, that's something special. We've come a long way with Aaron, and we're going to finish the deal with him.

YM: *As we speak here today, Brett Gardner is a free agent. Regardless of what happens, how would you describe the impact he has had on you and on the team since you first came up?*

AJ: He's a special individual. He keeps it loose in the clubhouse, in the dugout and on the field. He's the type of leader that the team looks to in good times and in bad times. He always gives one hundred percent and plays the game the right way. As he gets older, I feel like he runs even harder to first base. That's not something you see all the time from guys who have won a championship and who have been successful for more than a decade in the big leagues. I feel like he comes into spring training in better shape each year, and he's ready to do whatever the manager asks him to do. He comes in ready to be an everyday player, a center fielder, a left fielder, a part-time player, a pinch hitter or whatever else the team needs. When you're talking about a guy who has accomplished as much as he has and is willing to put the team first, it sets the perfect example. I can't speak highly enough about what Brett Gardner has meant to me and to our team.

This interview has been edited for clarity and length.

Fans can hardly wait to see what Judge has in store this season. He and the Yankees have lofty goals, starting with getting back to the postseason for a sixth year in a row. Having come up short of the World Series in his first five October trips, Judge uses those disappointments as fuel for the future. "That's why we work so hard," he says. "It's not to play well in April or even to win a Silver Slugger. It's all about winning a ring."

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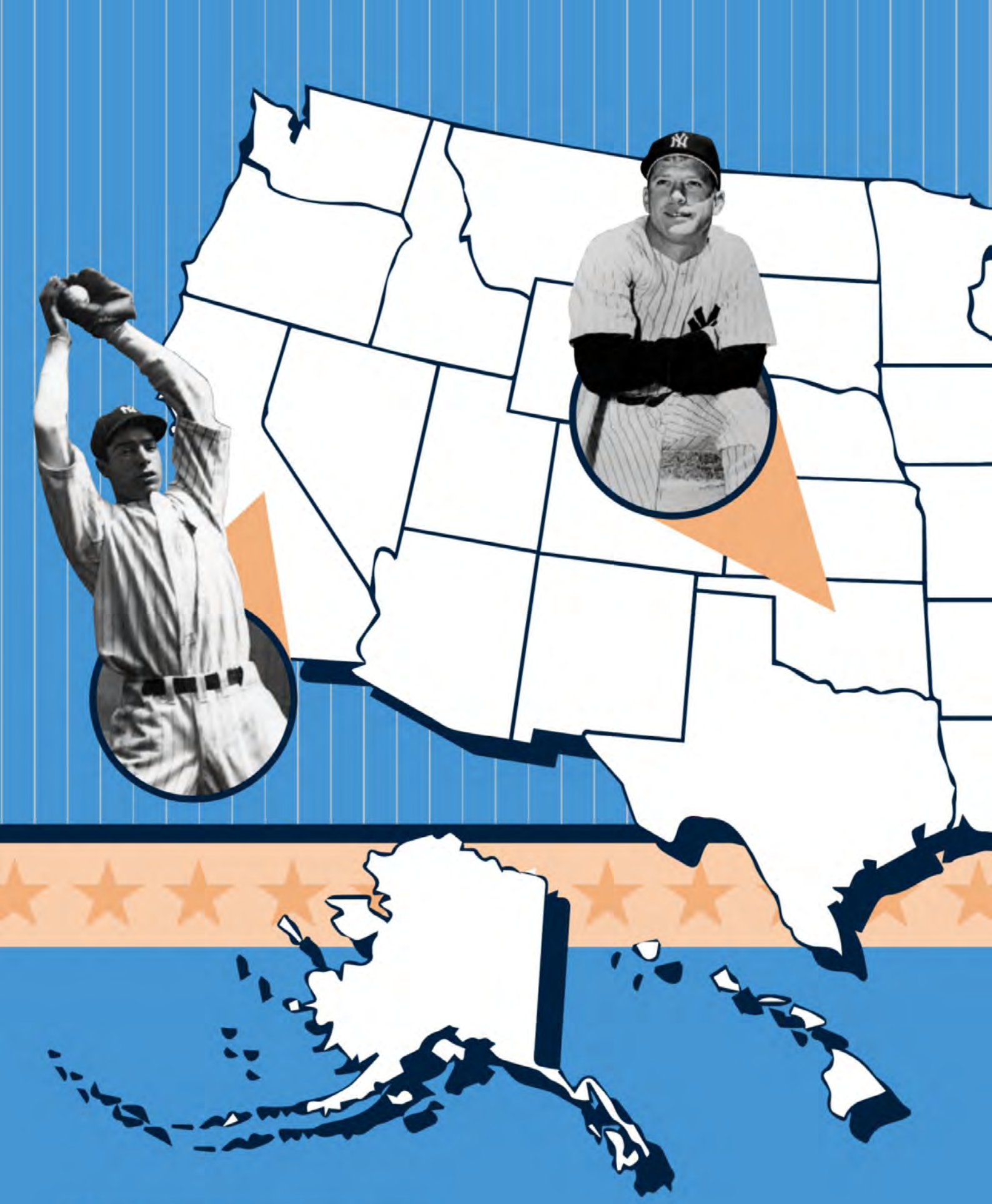
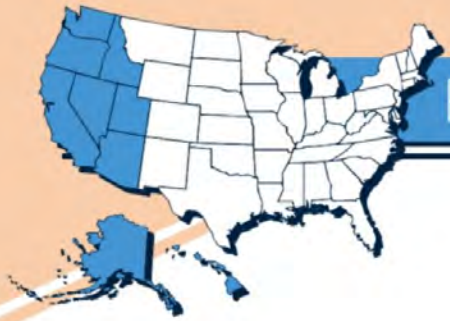


THIS LAND IS *Our Land*

From sea to shining sea, notable Yankees have emerged from (nearly) every state in the union | By Nathan Maciborski



PACIFIC WEST

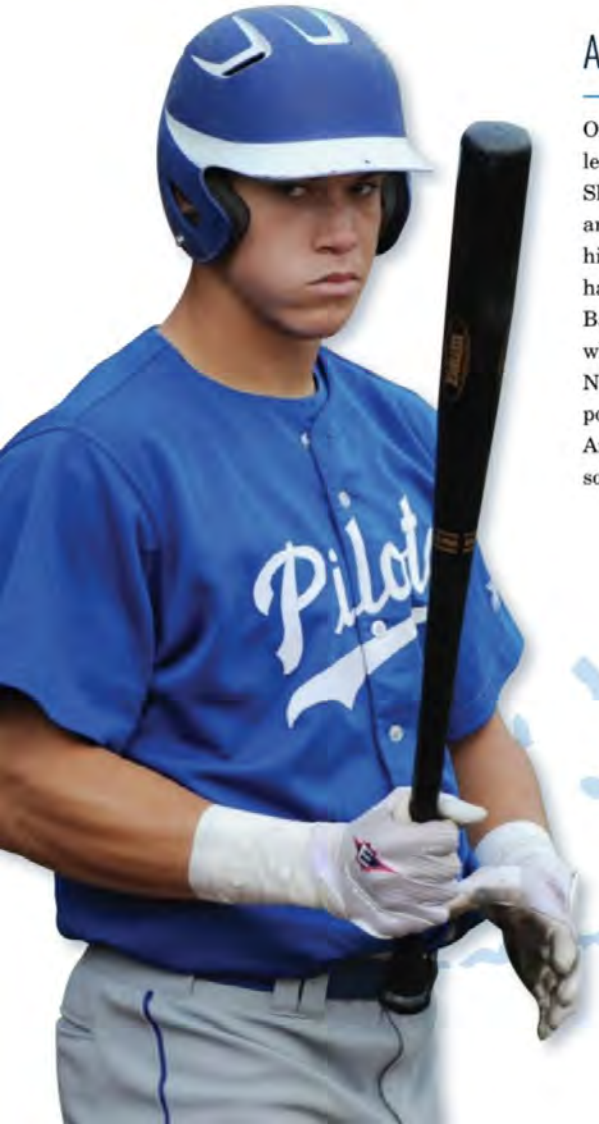
JOE GORDON

Oregon

Joe Gordon starred on and off the field at Jefferson High School, lending his violin talents to Portland's Symphony Orchestra as a teenager before producing two standout seasons at the University of Oregon, where his .358 career batting average is still top five in school history. But Gordon was just getting started. The nine-time All-Star and 1942 AL MVP won four World Series with the Yankees and one more with Cleveland during his Hall of Fame career.

MEL STOTTLEMYRE

Few pitchers in history have given more of themselves to the Yankees than Mel Stottlemyre, who grew up in Mabton and pitched at Yakima Valley Community College. A stalwart of the Yanks' rotations from the mid '60s through the mid '70s, Stottlemyre went toe-to-toe with Bob Gibson as a rookie in the 1964 World Series and was the team's pitching coach during its most recent dynasty in the late 1990s.



AARON JUDGE

Of the 12 Alaska-born players in major league history, only Josh Phelps and Shawn Chacon played for the Yankees, and both moved to the lower 48 before they hit kindergarten. But several *future* Yanks have played summer ball in the Alaska Baseball League, including Aaron Judge, who wowed Alaskans (much as he does New Yorkers) with his batting-practice power shows while playing for the 2011 Anchorage Glacier Pilots prior to his sophomore year at Fresno State.

ISIAH KINER-FALEFA

Is it too soon to crown Isiah Kiner-Falefa as the greatest Hawaiian player in Yankees history? The Yankees' new shortstop need only surpass fellow Honolulu product Lenn Sakata, whose 11-year career wrapped up with a 19-game stint for the 1987 Yankees; Bronson Sardinha, who appeared in 10 games for the 2007 team; and reliever Kirby Yates, who pitched to a 5.23 ERA in 41 games for the 2016 Yanks.

JOE DiMAGGIO *California*

Yankees rosters have long been stocked with California stars, none brighter than Joltin' Joe DiMaggio. Hailing from San Francisco's "Little Italy" in North Beach, DiMaggio was pressured to become a fisherman like his father, but Joe D instead carved out a legendary career in pinstripes that included a record 56-game hitting streak in 1941.

RON HASSEY *Arizona*

The son of a Yankees minor leaguer, Tucson's Ron Hassey led the University of Arizona to its first NCAA championship in 1976 before spending 14 years catching in the bigs. His two-year stint in New York saw him get traded to the White Sox twice within an eight-month span — Chicago sent him back two months after the first deal — despite hitting .297 in 156 games as a Yank.

CHASEN SHREVE *Nevada*

An afterthought no longer, Nevada has become a baseball hotbed in recent years, producing stars such as Bryce Harper, Kris Bryant and current Yankees outfielder Joey Gallo (as well as one of the team's top prospects, Austin Wells). But we can't forget about Harper's teammate at the College of Southern Nevada, Chasen Shreve. The left-handed reliever went 14-6 in 180 relief appearances for New York from 2015 to 2018 before being traded to St. Louis.

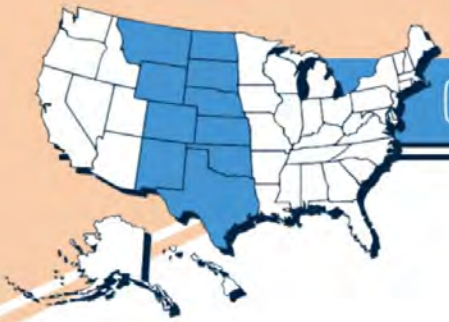
FRED SANFORD *Utah*

After fighting in the Pacific during World War II and leading the majors with 21 losses for the 1948 St. Louis Browns, things were finally looking up for Salt Lake City's Fred Sanford when he was traded to the Yankees just as they were about to embark on a run of five straight world championships. Unfortunately, the right-hander was relegated to a swingman role by manager Casey Stengel and never made a World Series roster before getting traded to Washington for Bob Kuzava in 1951.

Idaho

KENT HADLEY

Perfect game author Don Larsen fittingly called the Gem State home during his retirement years, but other than Harmon Killebrew, Idaho hasn't produced many of the game's all-time greats. One name that might ring a bell for Yankees historians, though, is Kent Hadley. The Pocatello native played just 55 games for the Yanks, but he came to New York as part of the seven-player deal in December 1959 that brought Roger Maris to the Bronx.



GREAT PLAINS

Montana

AARON BOONE

If it's natural beauty you're after, few states compare to Montana. With its incredible national parks and limitless outdoor recreational opportunities, Big Sky Country attracts millions of visitors each year. That being said, the next Yankees player from Montana will be the first. Plenty of future Yanks played minor league ball there, though, including manager Aaron Boone, whose first pro season was spent in the Pioneer League with the 1994 Billings Mustangs.

South Dakota

DEL PADDOCK

Debate all you want about the Mount Rushmore of Yankees. A visit to the actual Mount Rushmore — while well worth the trip — will not take you to baseball's promised land. When the Sioux Falls *Argus-Leader* compiled its all-time team of South Dakota big leaguers in 1989, it had to reach all the way back to 1912 for a third baseman, Volga's Del Paddock, who batted .288 in 46 games for a Highlanders team that still owns the lowest winning percentage (.329) in franchise history.

Nebraska

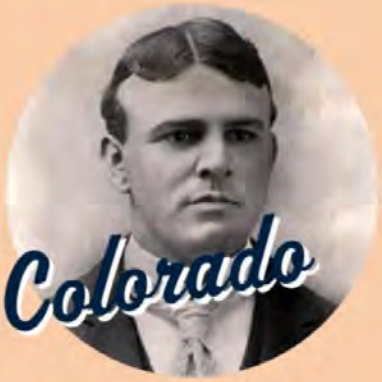
JOBA CHAMBERLAIN

Aurora's Les Nunamaker was a terrific pinch-hitter and backup catcher in the mid 1910's. Nearly a century later, New York was introduced to Lincoln (and University of Nebraska) product Joba Chamberlain, the hard-throwing right-hander of Native American heritage whose tumultuous tenure included the infamous "bug game" as a 22-year-old rookie pitching in the 2007 ALDS.

Wyoming

GIANCARLO STANTON

Major League Baseball's recent efforts to grow the sport have seen the Yankees play regular-season games in such unique locales as Iowa and London. Here's a thought for the next venture: Wyoming. Who wouldn't want to see if Giancarlo Stanton could hit a ball out of Yellowstone National Park? Perhaps it would inspire some young cowboy or cowgirl to put down their lasso and pick up a glove.



Colorado

JIMMY WILLIAMS

When the newly formed New York Highlanders popped up in 1903, fans at Hilltop Park quickly latched on to popular second baseman Jimmy Williams. Born the same year as the Centennial State, Williams led the team in doubles, triples and RBI during the franchise's inaugural season. And despite his Wild West upbringing, the Pueblo legend was widely respected as a friendly and easygoing teammate.

CHRISTIAN PARKER *New Mexico*

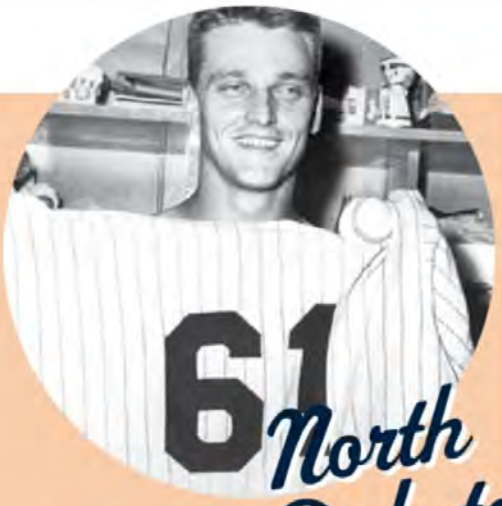
For a moment, it seemed as if Albuquerque native Christian Parker was destined for big things. With the Yankees coming off three straight World Series victories, the 25-year-old rookie right-hander — who had been acquired in 2000 to complete the deal that sent Hideki Irabu to Montreal — earned a spot in the team's starting rotation out of camp in 2001. After watching Roger Clemens, Andy Pettitte and Mike Mussina pitch the Yankees to a season-opening sweep of the Royals, Parker took his turn and gave up seven runs in three innings — the lone appearance of his once-promising big-league career.

ANDY PETTITTE *Texas*

Since the MLB Draft began in 1965, the Yankees have found plenty of hidden pitching gems, none greater than Andrew Eugene Pettitte. Selected 594th overall out of Deer Park High School in 1990, Pettitte played one year of junior college ball at San Jacinto before embarking on a pro career that ended in 2013 with the left-hander sitting atop the Yankees' all-time strikeouts list.

MIKE TORREZ *Kansas*

In 1906, Clay Center's Slow Joe Doyle emerged from the Sunflower State to become the first American League pitcher to toss shutouts in each of this first two career starts. But who can forget Topeka's Mike Torrez, who beat the Dodgers twice in the '77 World Series after twirling 5⅓ scoreless innings of relief in the ALCS clincher? He even inadvertently helped the Yankees again the following year — as a member of the Red Sox — when he served up Bucky Dent's famous homer at Fenway Park.

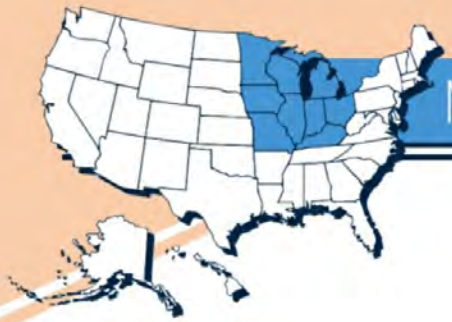


ROGER MARIS *North Dakota*

It remains one of the most legendary feats in sports — Roger Maris scoring four touchdowns on returns in a single game for Bishop Shanley High in 1951. A decade later, Maris made another kind of history, breaking Babe Ruth's single-season record with 61 home runs en route to his second straight AL MVP in his first two seasons in New York. The Roger Maris Museum in his hometown of Fargo stands as a permanent shrine to No. 9.

MICKEY MANTLE *Oklahoma*

The zinc mines are mostly gone, but the old tin barn where Mutt Mantle taught his son, Mickey, to switch-hit still stands in Commerce. Hoping to avoid a life of mining (and, likely, an early death), The Mick brought his prodigious talents to New York, where he became an idol to millions throughout the 1950s and '60s.



MIDWEST

STAN BAHNSEN — *Iowa*

Of their 40 picks in the inaugural 1965 MLB Draft, the Yankees struck gold on just one: Stan Bahnsen. The multisport athlete out of Council Bluffs' Abraham Lincoln High School pitched one season at the University of Nebraska before being selected in the fourth round, making his big-league debut the following year. In 1968, the "Bahnsen Burner" went 17-12 with a 2.05 ERA, capturing AL Rookie of the Year honors.

YANKEES' ALL-NYC TEAM

Some of the Yanks' all-time greats didn't even have to leave the city

Brooklyn-raised manager Joe Torre might have to shuffle a few guys around the field, but a fantasy team of Yankees who grew up in the five boroughs would surely win a ton of games. Who's up for some stickball?

Joe Pepitone

Rocky Colavito — **Wee Willie Keeler**

Phil Rizzuto — **Willie Randolph**

Snuffy Stirnweiss — **Lou Gehrig**

Whitey Ford

Frank Fernandez

SP: Waite Hoyt, Eddie Lopat, Marius Russo, Bob Grim

RP: Johnny Murphy **Manager: Joe Torre**

DON MATTINGLY

The pride of Evansville, Don Mattingly parlayed an outstanding career at Reitz Memorial High School — he remains Indiana's all-time leader with 25 career triples — into a 19th-round selection by the Yankees in 1979. The first baseman became a legend in New York, one of the best all-around players of the 1980s, and had his No. 23 retired by the team in 1997.

RED RUFFING

Escaping the Coalton coal mines that claimed his cousin's life, four of his own toes and literally broke his father's back, Hall of Famer Charles Herbert "Red" Ruffing became a six-time world champion with the Yankees after being traded from the Red Sox in 1930. In 10 World Series starts, Ruffing twirled eight complete games and won seven.

TONY KUBEK

The first World Series game ever held in Wisconsin saw a hometown hero put on an incredible performance — for the Yankees. In Game 3 of the 1957 Fall Classic, 21-year-old Milwaukee native Tony Kubek — who had hit just three homers all season — punctuated his AL Rookie of the Year campaign by going deep twice against the Braves. Kubek would win three World Series in his nine seasons and enjoy a long and successful post-playing career as a broadcaster.

THURMAN MUNSON *Ohio*

The Yankees' captain and All-Star catcher embodied New York's grit and toughness during the 1970s, but Thurman Munson kept Ohio in his heart wherever he went. He became a pilot so that he could fly home and see his family whenever possible, an endeavor that ultimately led to Munson's shocking death on Aug. 2, 1979, when he crashed while trying to land at the Akron-Canton airport.

EARLE COMBS *Kentucky*

After a standout career at Eastern Kentucky, Earle Combs thought his playing days were over and was resigned to a future as a schoolteacher in the Bluegrass State. But he gave baseball the old college try and ended up becoming the American League's top leadoff hitter during the 1920s, leading the Junior Circuit in hits and triples in 1927 while manning center field for the vaunted "Murderers' Row" Yankees.

DEREK JETER *Michigan*

Dick Groch, the scout who insisted Derek Jeter was headed to Cooperstown rather than the University of Michigan, turned out to be right. After a 20-year career rife with clutch moments and memorable milestones, the Kalamazoo Kid received the highest percentage of votes (99.7%) of any Hall of Fame position player.

Minnesota

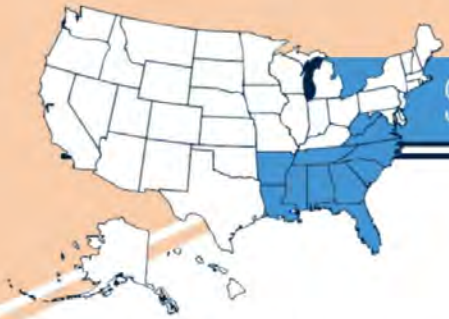
DAVE WINFIELD

St. Paul native Dave Winfield was so good at sports that, coming out of the University of Minnesota in 1973, he was drafted by the San Diego Padres, the NBA's Atlanta Hawks, the ABA's Utah Stars and — even though he didn't play college football — the NFL's Minnesota Vikings. He chose baseball, bypassing the minors and skipping directly to the big leagues, where he became a 12-time All-Star — including eight straight selections with the Yankees — and a seven-time Gold Glove Award winner.

Missouri

YOGI BERRA

From The Hill section of St. Louis to American immortality, Yogi Berra was truly one of a kind — and one of the greatest catchers who ever lived. The utterly quotable, impossible-not-to-love son of Italian immigrants fought in World War II before winning 10 World Series and three AL MVP Awards with the Yankees.



SOUTHEAST

GEORGE McQUINN *Virginia*

Growing up in Arlington, McQuinn starred at Washington-Lee High School before signing with the Yankees. The first baseman rose quickly through the minors, nabbing 1933 New York–Penn League MVP honors with the Binghamton Triplets, but with Lou Gehrig firmly blocking McQuinn's path to the bigs, the Yankees let the Browns claim him in the Rule 5 Draft following the 1937 season. He became a four-time All-Star with St. Louis before finally putting on the pinstripes, concluding his career with two All-Star seasons in New York at age 37 and 38.

TINO MARTINEZ *Florida*

While 2009 World Series champ Alex Rodriguez rose to stardom as a high schooler in Miami, he spent his formative years in New York City and the Dominican Republic. Likewise, '96 champ Wade Boggs moved around as a kid before settling in Tampa at age 11. But four-time World Series winner Tino Martinez is a lifelong Floridian, leading two different Tampa high schools to state championships and becoming a three-time All American at the University of Tampa. The 2013 National College Baseball Hall of Fame inductee was honored with a plaque in Monument Park the following year.

JAKE GIBBS *Mississippi*

Jake Gibbs played an important role for the Yankees, serving as Elston Howard's backup and then taking over the starting catching role until Thurman Munson burst onto the scene. But his heart has always remained in Oxford, where he quarterbacked Ole Miss to a share of the national championship in 1960 a year after leading the baseball team to its first SEC title. Still a regular at Ole Miss football games, Gibbs served as an assistant football coach during his baseball offseasons.

BEN CHAPMAN *Alabama*

Not long after leading Birmingham's Phillips High to the 1927 Alabama state title, Ben Chapman got off to a promising start with the Yankees, pacing the majors in steals three straight years from 1931 to '33 and being named an All-Star in each of the first four years of the Midsummer Classic's existence. Known for his abrasive persona, the "Dixie Flyer" spent the last decade of his 15-year career shuffling among seven different franchises.

BRETT GARDNER *South Carolina*

From a walk-on at the College of Charleston to a leader in Yankees pinstripes, Brett Gardner authored a storybook baseball career. The speedy outfielder carved out a legacy in New York that will endear him to Yankees fans for many years to come, but the spotlight-averse Gardner will always be happiest on his family's 2,600-acre farm in Holly Hill.

BILL DICKEY *Arkansas*

A pitcher at Searcy High School and Little Rock College, Bill Dickey filled in at catcher one day for a friend on a Hot Springs semipro team, and the rest was history. In 17 seasons with the Yankees, the 11-time All-Star batted .313 and won seven World Series, then taught everything he knew to his protege, Yogi Berra.

SPUD CHANDLER

Georgia

Growing up in rural Georgia during the early part of the 20th century, Spurgeon "Spud" Chandler might have rooted for the Detroit Tigers and fellow Franklin County product Ty Cobb. But Chandler loved the Yankees, relishing the opportunity to play football at Yankee Stadium in 1931 as a member of the Georgia Bulldogs. Six years later, he began his 11-year run with the Yanks, going 109-43 and earning 1943 AL MVP honors.

RON GUIDRY

Louisiana

After a 1978 season that will forever be etched in Yankees lore, Ron Guidry remains a fan favorite in New York, where he won two World Series and had his No. 49 retired. But "Gator" will always call Louisiana home, entertaining visitors to his Lafayette ranch with plates of frogs' legs and Cajun-accented stories of the night he struck out 18 Angels, earning a second nickname — "Louisiana Lightning" — from broadcaster Phil Rizzuto.

JACK WARHOP

West Virginia

Babe Ruth made his first of 714 trots around the bases on May 6, 1915, after smacking a pitch from Yankees right-hander Jack Warhop into the right-field grandstand at the Polo Grounds. While the sidearming former coal miner from Hinton would also give up Ruth's second career homer nearly a month later, Warhop was far from just a footnote, eclipsing 200 innings pitched in five out of eight seasons with the Yankees.

Tennessee

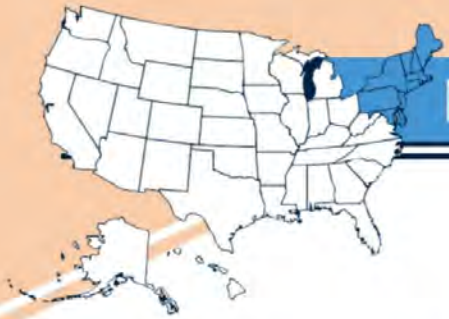
SONNY GRAY

Sonny Gray's season-and-a-half-long tenure with the Yankees was brief, but his legacy in Smyrna will last forever. Overcoming the death of his father, Gray quarterbacked unheralded Smyrna High to back-to-back state titles. The right-hander was nearly as legendary in spring, authoring a baseball career that earned him a scholarship to Vanderbilt, where he helped lead the Commodores to their first College World Series in 2011.

CATFISH HUNTER

Even as he acquired a flashy nickname while winning three straight World Series with the Athletics and made a splash as George Steinbrenner's first big free-agent signing in New York — where he won two more rings — Jim "Catfish" Hunter remained a humble hero in his hometown of Hertford. After baseball, Hunter retired to a quiet life of farming and hunting along the banks of the Perquimans River, and he was buried there after succumbing to Lou Gehrig's disease in 1999.

North Carolina



NORTHEAST

DON BRENNAN — *Maine*

Westbrook's John Cumberland and Rumford's Stan Thomas are among the few Yankees to have emerged from the great state of Maine. Decades before them, Augusta's Don Brennan led the International League with 26 wins for the 1932 Newark Bears and was pitching in Yankee Stadium soon after, going 5-1 in 1933. Brennan finished his career with three scoreless innings against his former team in the 1937 World Series while pitching for the New York Giants.

RAY FISHER — *Vermont*

Although Ray Fisher's legacy is most evident at the University of Michigan, where he coached the Wolverines for 38 seasons and the stadium now bears his name, Fisher was a proud Vermonter. Upon graduating from Middlebury College in 1910, he came to the Highlanders toting a homemade bat he had whittled on the family farm in Middlebury. Fisher pitched eight seasons in New York before joining the Reds and winning the infamous 1919 World Series, but wherever his career took him throughout life, any downtime he had was spent relaxing on Lake Champlain.

New York

LOU GEHRIG

A strapping athlete from upper Manhattan who took great care in sculpting his physique — he swam across the Hudson River at age 11 — Lou Gehrig starred at Columbia University before becoming a Yankees legend. Still the team's single-season and career RBI leader, Gehrig achieved iconic status through his consecutive games streak and the grace with which he handled the tragic disease that would claim his life.

JACK CHESBRO — *Massachusetts*

Jack Chesbro honed his craft on the sandlots of North Adams and, after a Hall of Fame career, retired to his chicken farm in the Berkshires. "Happy Jack" lost the first game in Yankees (then Highlanders) history, then won the team's first home game at Hilltop Park on April 30, 1903. The following season, the spitballer led the majors in wins (41), starts (51), complete games (48) and innings pitched (454⅔) — franchise single-season records that are in little danger of being broken.

RED ROLFE — *New Hampshire*

Known as Bobby to the good people of Penacook, Rolfe acquired the nickname "Red" at New Hampshire's Phillips Exeter Academy, then rewrote the record books at Dartmouth. After winning five World Series in his 10-year Yankees career, the Ivy Leaguer returned to his roots, spending 14 years as athletic director at Dartmouth, where the baseball field still bears his name.

JUMBO BROWN — *Rhode Island*

Despite being the smallest state and having a current population of just more than 1 million, Rhode Island can lay claim to an impressive list of baseball stars. Hall of Famers Nap Lajoie and Hugh Duffy both came from the Ocean State, as did Lou Gehrig's coach at Columbia, Andy Coakley. Rhode Island's most notable Yankee might be Greene native Jumbo Brown, the affable pitcher who tipped the scales for the Yankees teams of the early-to-mid 1930s and swore until his death that he saw Babe Ruth call his shot.

JOE DUGAN — *Connecticut*

While playing ball at New Haven's Hillhouse High — where he graduated five years after future Yankees general manager George Weiss — Joe Dugan couldn't have imagined he'd become the sure-handed third baseman of the vaunted 1920s Yankees dynasty, often paying the price for pitchers' irritation at his teammates' vicious offensive attack. "It's always the same," he once lamented. "Combs walks. Koenig singles. Ruth hits one out of the park. Gehrig doubles. Lazzeri triples. Then Dugan goes down on the dirt on his can."

DALLAS GREEN — *Delaware*

Delaware may have been the first state to ratify the Constitution on Dec. 7, 1787, but it hasn't exactly led the way in terms of sending guys to the bigs. One Blue Hen who proudly wore the pinstripes, though, was Dallas Green. The Newport native was a two-sport star at the University of Delaware in the mid-1950s, and he spent the rest of his life in baseball, including a 121-game stint as Yankees manager in 1989.

HERB PENNOCK — *Pennsylvania*

Although Sigel's Bob Shawkey won more games, and both Shawkey and Montoursville's Mike Mussina recorded more strikeouts in pinstripes, "The Squire of Kennett Square," Herb Pennock, deserves recognition not only for his impressive regular-season record (162-90 from 1923 to '33), but also for his utter dominance in October: In nine World Series appearances with the Yankees, the left-hander went 5-0 with a 2.06 ERA and three saves, winning rings in 1923, '27 and '32.

AL DOWNING — *New Jersey*

Pitching Trenton to the 1956 Babe Ruth League World Series title as a 15-year-old marked the beginning of a remarkable baseball career for Downing. The first Black pitcher in Yankees history spent the first nine of his 17 big-league seasons in New York, appearing in two World Series. The left-hander was linked to Ruth again in 1974 when, as a Dodger, he gave up Hank Aaron's record-breaking 715th career homer.

BABE RUTH

It'll take one heck of a ballplayer to unseat the Colossus of Clout as Maryland's greatest baseball export. The "incorrigible" son of a Baltimore barkeep, George Herman "Babe" Ruth was sent to nearby St. Mary's Industrial School for Boys, where he learned to play the game that, a century later, still has seen no equal.

Maryland

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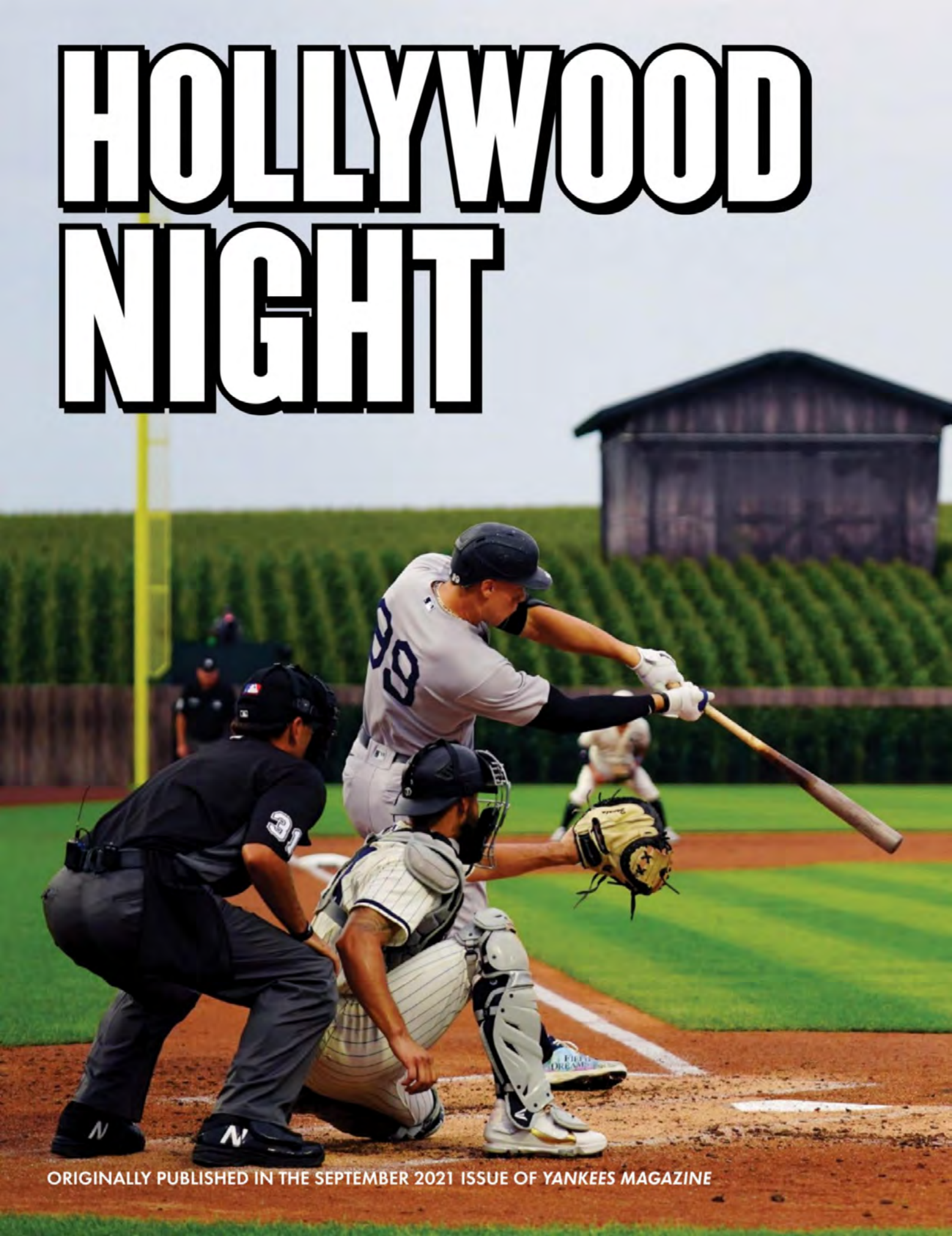
HOLLYWOOD NIGHT



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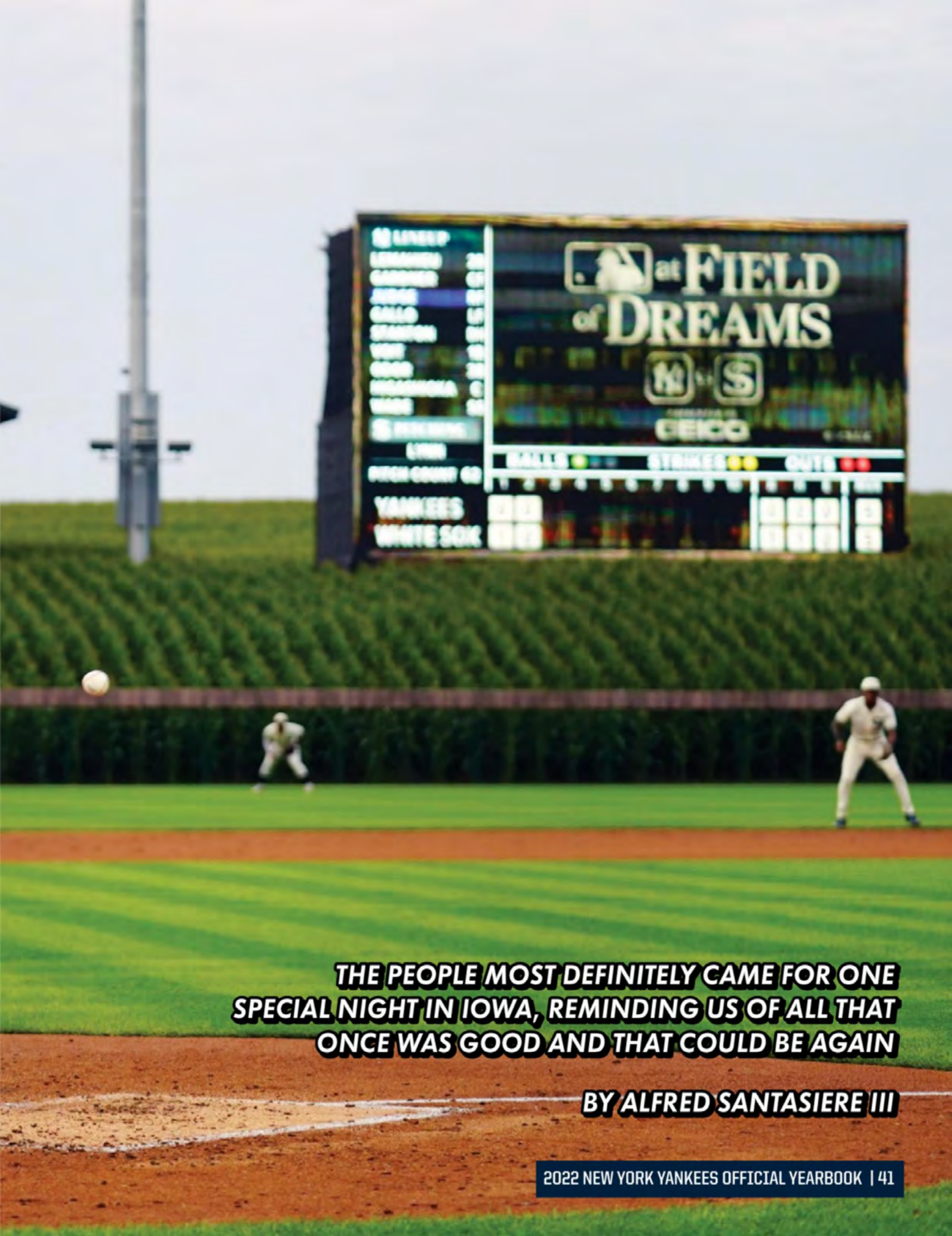

THE PEOPLE MOST DEFINITELY CAME FOR ONE SPECIAL NIGHT IN IOWA, REMINDING US OF ALL THAT ONCE WAS GOOD AND THAT COULD BE AGAIN

BY ALFRED SANTASIERE III

"People will come Ray." The words are about as legendary as any in the history of cinema. James Earl Jones, in the role of reclusive author Terence Mann in the 1989 film *Field of Dreams*, tells the movie's main character, Kevin Costner's Ray Kinsella, that the fantasy at the heart of the film would prove true.

"They'll come to Iowa for reasons they can't even fathom," Mann continues in Jones' unmistakable baritone from a set of wooden bleachers on the first-base side of the baseball diamond that Kinsella built on his Iowa farm. "They'll turn up your driveway, not knowing for sure why they're doing it. They'll arrive at your door as innocent as children longing for the past. ... The one constant through all the years, Ray, has been baseball. America has rolled by like an army of steamrollers. It's been erased like a blackboard, rebuilt, and erased again. But baseball has marked the time. This field, this game; it's a part of our past, Ray. It reminds us of all that once was good and that could be again.

"Oh, people will come, Ray. People will most definitely come."

Mann's prediction proves to be accurate at the end of the movie, which is based on W.P. Kinsella's novel, *Shoeless Joe*. After risking it all to build a baseball field in the middle of a cornfield — because he believed that he was instructed to by the ghosts of deceased ballplayers — Kinsella is rewarded. Throughout the second half of the movie, the long-dead baseball stars — including members of the 1919 Chicago White Sox team that infamously threw the World Series and had eight of its players banned from the game for life — make their way out of the cornfield that surrounds the outfield to relive their youth and capture moments on the diamond that were inevitably lost. For three decades, the emotion has overwhelmed the movie's fans as much as the chance to play ball again did for the ghosts of baseball past.

"Is this heaven?" asks "Shoeless" Joe Jackson, portrayed by Ray Liotta.

"No," Kinsella responds to the most famous player on the 1919 White Sox. "It's Iowa."

Before the movie ends, Kinsella is joined on the field by a youthful version of his father, a man who had died years before and is finally able to enjoy that elusive catch with his son on the Iowa diamond. The ultimate reward — and Kinsella's redemption — comes in the form of a traffic jam; droves of people travel along the most rural roads imaginable to watch baseball on Kinsella's field of dreams. The people do,

"I COULDN'T WAIT TO GET A SNEAK PEEK. THIS IS SO COOL."
—BOONE

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indeed, come. It's quite the Hollywood ending, and something that could have only seemed fantastical three decades ago.

Thirty-two years after that fictional catch between the Kinsella generations, three buses make their way along roads surrounded only by cornfields, working farms and the bright blue sky en route to the very place where the movie was filmed. A few minutes after 1 p.m. on Aug. 12, the 2021 Yankees players, coaches and traveling party make their final turn from Lansing Road onto Field of Dreams Way, which leads to the field at the heart of the film. As dirt from the road kicks into the air, everyone from superstars such as Aaron Judge and Giancarlo Stanton to the team's unheralded rookies take photos and record the last part of the ride, including the line of fans taking video and still photos of the big-league visitors.

The buses continue past the movie site, which hosts more than 100,000 visitors annually. But the Yankees are in Iowa to christen an altogether new attraction, on a newly constructed ballpark about a quarter mile down that dirt road. For the first time ever, an official Major League Baseball game will be played in the state of Iowa.

Originally, the Yankees were set to square off against the Chicago White Sox in the MLB at Field of Dreams game in 2020. The COVID-19 pandemic pushed back the date of the game, but on a scorching hot day amid the cornfields, all of the pent-up excitement that lived inside fans and players for more than a year — to say nothing of the previous three decades — is about to come out.

The buses finally stop behind a giant tent, which sits on the first-base side of the 8,000-seat ballpark. Manager Aaron Boone gets off the first bus and walks along a muddy path that takes him to the visiting clubhouse within the tent. He quickly drops his bag in the visiting manager's office, a small carpeted room holding only a chair,

The 2021 New York Yankees were the visiting team for the first Major League Baseball game ever held in the state of Iowa. The Aug. 12 MLB at Field of Dreams Game was years in the making, and it turned out to be a rousing success; an event that no one involved will ever forget. "Never in my life did I think I'd ever experience this," Judge said.

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folding table, TV and vanity mirror. From there, Boone makes his way out to the dugout before any of his players. He takes a close look at the back wall of the dugout, constructed from salvaged barn planks.

"I couldn't wait to get a sneak peek," Boone says, peering out onto the field. "This is so cool."

Moments later, Boone and his players are all on the field together for a team photo in their throwback road gray uniforms. Simply in awe of the backdrop — which features an expansive cornfield that connects the major league ballpark with the field on the movie set, as well as a 30-foot-high, barn-shaped batter's eye located just beyond the center-field wall — many of the players take their time getting out to right field. There, they assemble in front of a manual scoreboard made out of repurposed wood from a barn.

All the elements are unique, and perfect for the setting and the intended message. The green chain-link fence ringing the outfield sits so close to the cornfield that the afternoon breeze actually blows leaves from the corn stalks through the openings. At a glance, it almost looks like there isn't even a wall, just corn as far as the eye can see.

After the photo is taken, the team is invited to take a journey back in time. One by one, the players walk through an opening in the fence and into the cornfield behind the wall for what is, at least for one night, a major league field of dreams.

Just like the characters in the movie, the players disappear into the cornfield. But in the real-life version of *Field of Dreams*, they come to an opening that brings them past a giant corn maze in the shape of Major League Baseball's silhouetted batter logo. None of the players accept the challenge of getting through the maze; instead they continue their journey into another dense area of cornstalks where they are met with whispers from the movie's ghosts, originating from small speakers hidden in the cornstalks.

Soon, the ballplayers begin to emerge on the other side of reality. With seemingly the same enthusiasm that the characters

Recreating one of the 1989 movie's many iconic scenes, Stanton [top] and Judge emerged from the cornfields of Iowa ready to play ball. The film has stood the test of time thanks to its themes of love, family and character, and the site welcomes more than 100,000 visitors every year. "I'm glad that after we were done filming the movie, no one was in a rush to tear down the field," said Costner.

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Field of Dreams

exuded in the movie, the stars of today take it all in.

Stanton and Luke Voit grab ears of corn and put them in their back pockets. Aroldis Chapman totes some of Iowa's finest corn out to the mound, where he pretends it's a baseball, while Gerrit Cole hustles over to the first-base bleachers where several of the movie's most important scenes were shot. Cole sits down on the top row of the small wooden boards and is quickly joined by Jordan Montgomery and Jameson Taillon.

"This really is a special place," Cole says. "I've seen the movie a bunch of times, and it's hard to believe that I'm sitting here. To say that this is surreal would be quite an understatement."

From first base, Brett Gardner snaps photos of the white house that served as the Kinsellas' home. He points toward the kitchen window that overlooks the field.

"Man, can you imagine waking up every morning and having this view while you're making coffee?" Gardner says. "It's hard not to feel the charm of this place. Between the beautiful scenery surrounding the field and just the atmosphere in the area on this field, it's an amazing place."

The two-story farmhouse sits on a hill about 50 yards from the field, and it's surrounded by a short rock wall and a white picket fence. It sits next to a red barn, and the interior of the house hasn't changed much since 1989. From the wispy sheer curtains and outdated television that sits on the living room floor to the 50-plus-year-old stove that gives the kitchen a throwback feel, it's hard not to feel nostalgic.

"I'm just in awe," Gardner says. "I'm very excited to be here. It's cool to take this all in. I'm looking forward to the game and the atmosphere. I'm so happy we could come here and pull this off."

As the team's 20-minute respite from reality draws to a close, Judge trails most of his teammates on their way back to the cornfield — and back to the major league ballpark. In a scene straight out of the movie, the Yankees fade into the cornfield.

"It's amazing to walk through that corn," Judge says as he approaches the outfield.

From the white picket fence surrounding the yard to the antique stove in the corner of the kitchen, the homestead belonging to the fictional Kinsella family hasn't changed much over the years. "It's hard not to feel the charm," Gardner said. "It's an amazing place."

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Field of Dreams

"I feel like everything is in slow motion, just like it was for those legends in the movie. This is incredible. Even driving up and seeing everyone in the towns waving at us was something we're going to remember. This is going to be a fun night and a once-in-a-lifetime experience. I wish we could play three games here. We're going to try to enjoy it and put on a show for the fans."

After the White Sox, wearing throwback uniforms from 1919, tour the movie site, fans begin to arrive. Thousands of people — many of them Iowa residents — pour in when the gates open at 3 p.m. They park in fields located on either side of Lansing Road, as part of a deal that Major League Baseball made with the Reittinger family that owns the land adjacent to the film location.

"They were accommodating, and they really understood that this event is bigger than their family," Major League Baseball director of events and scheduling Jeremiah Yolkut says on the morning of the game. "They worked hard beginning in February to plant the right kind of alfalfa so that the ground would be as solid as it could be, even with a lot of rain."

The backstory regarding the farm where the movie was filmed and where Iowa's first major league game was set to be played is much more complex and emotional. And the similarities to the plot of *Field of Dreams* are stunning.

In 2012, Denise Stillman, a loyal White Sox fan and businesswomen from the Chicago suburbs, led a group of investors who bought the land from the Lansing family, owners of the farm for more than a century. Stillman's original idea was to turn the site into a youth baseball and softball complex — reminiscent of the facility in Cooperstown, New York, that draws travel teams from around the country for youth tournaments — but executing that plan proved to be far too difficult. Lawsuits from local farmers determined to limit traffic and maintain the "farm country" atmosphere in the town of approximately 4,000 people delayed Stillman's plans for four years.

Although the Iowa Supreme Court ruled in Stillman's favor in 2016, the lost time and stresses proved to be significant. Stillman and her husband divorced, and key investors dropped out. Then, with her financial losses mounting — not unlike those of the fictional Ray Kinsella — Stillman came up with the idea of hosting a major league game on the farm.

Stillman, who remarried in 2016, pushed the idea on Major League Baseball Commissioner Rob Manfred, even inviting him to the 193-acre parcel that she and her group purchased for $3.4 million, according to the *Chicago Tribune*. The idea resonated with the commissioner and his top lieutenants, whose efforts toward growing the sport have included scheduling games in other non-traditional locations such as London; Fort Bragg, North Carolina; and Williamsport, Pennsylvania, the home of the Little League World Series.

The deal to bring a major league game to the tiny Iowa town, situated 20 miles west of the Mississippi River, took years to complete. Sadly, Stillman passed away in November 2018 from a rare form of liver

"THIS IS PERFECT.

YOU ALWAYS WANT THINGS TO OVERDELIVER, AND THIS CERTAINLY HAS."

—COSTNER

cancer. According to her surviving husband, Tom Mietzel, and her two children, Stillman knew prior to her death that the game was going to eventually happen.

"She was ecstatic," her daughter, Claire Stillman, told the *Chicago Tribune* earlier this summer. "I'm very grateful that she got to know that it was going to happen before she passed."

"It was so cool for me to see so much of my mother's vision come to life finally," Stillman's son, John, said in the same *Tribune* story. "I know all that she went through and all the time she sacrificed. She'd be very proud of everything that happened."

Knowing that the field on the movie site was too small — its left-field line extends just 300 feet from home plate — Major League Baseball went to work on conceiving and constructing a pop-up stadium a few acres from the field made famous in the film. Having invested millions into the construction, MLB is determined not to let the MLB at Field of Dreams game be a one-time event; already, the league announced that the Cubs will play against the Reds (the team that benefited from the 1919 White Sox's chicanery) there in 2022.

"All things considered, I think things went pretty smooth," Chris Marinak, chief operations and strategy officer at Major League Baseball, says of building the field. "We had to build a major league field in the middle of a cornfield. We had to put drainage in; it's not like we just had to level some corn and put in a mound. There was a lot of work that went into putting the field together. We have a great field construction group, and we're really excited that this came together."

Among the greatest joys for Marinak and the whole crew at MLB, though, was making sure that the game — despite the influx of national media and major corporate sponsors — could be enjoyed and celebrated by the locals.

Pregame introductions are reserved for special occasions in Major League Baseball, and the MLB at Field of Dreams Game was certainly one of them. Some 8,000 fans welcomed the Yankees and White Sox to Dyersville, an opening ceremony that looked nothing like anything the players or the sport had ever seen before.

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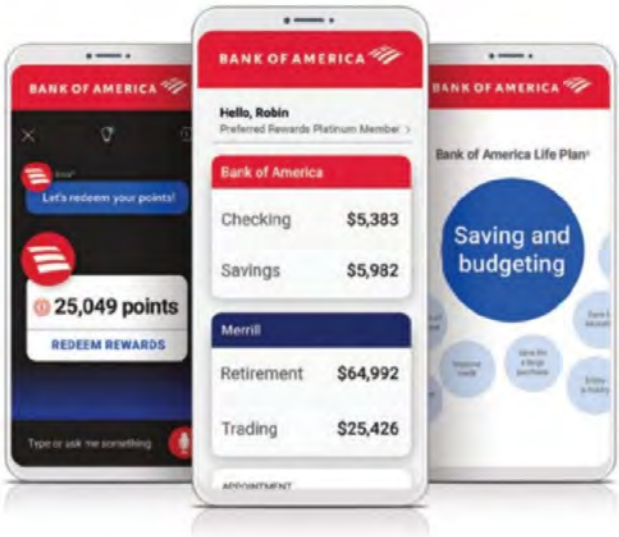

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"We had a lot of [ticket] requests from the clubs and our partners," Marinak says. "But 100 percent of the remaining ticket inventory went to local Iowa residents. We felt like that was important because one of our strategies behind this game was to bring baseball to communities that don't get to watch the game live. We're excited to bring this game to Iowa."

In the hours before first pitch, fans fill any empty blade of grass on the movie site. Fathers and mothers play catch with their children, just like John and Ray Kinsella. Photos are taken, and once-in-a-lifetime memories are made. Alongside scores of fans and hired stand-ins for the 1919 White Sox, the commissioner of Major League Baseball takes it all in.

"We want to be able to tell the story of baseball; that's why we wanted to play these games," Manfred says from the bleachers along the first-base line. "As soon as you watch that movie, you feel the power that baseball brings to families and to communities. It transcends the product on the field. That's what is so special about baseball; it brings people together. It has a history and tradition that no other sport has. We felt like part of the storytelling of this game needed to have an integration with the movie. So many of the elements you see here at the facility are designed to do that. Having people play catch on the field and walk through the cornfield really brings that to life."

"I feel like this field always has a magical feeling," Dwier Brown, the actor who played John Kinsella, says as he watches families re-enact his famous catch from the movie's conclusion. "This has become a hallowed place, and this game has taken it to another level. We didn't realize when we filmed that scene that it was going to be such a beautiful, cathartic moment for so many people. I wasn't aware of the impact that my small part was going to have, but I'm glad it came out well."

With the excitement building, fans make a pilgrimage into the cornfield that connects both fields. They walk along a dirt path, which would later be illuminated with lightbulbs strung along the tops of the large cornstalks.

Those who head to their seats early miss out on Costner's return to the field he made famous. "This is perfect," the Academy Award winner says. "You always want things to overdeliver, and this certainly has. I'm glad that after we were done filming the movie, no one was in a rush to tear down the field. There's so much perfectly good corn around here. I couldn't imagine why they would take down this great place to play, just to plant more corn. I'm just so happy the field has remained here, especially today."

In the film, the ghosts of the White Sox players speak to Ray Kinsella, or so he thinks. "If you build it," Kinsella hears, "he will come." Kinsella built it, and they came to rural Iowa.

In the real-life version of *Field of Dreams*, Denise Stillman's dream of building a major league ballpark on her farm came true in 2019, and when the game finally takes place two years later, more than 8,000 people come to Dyersville, Iowa. Every inch of seating in the newly built stadium is filled as the pomp and circumstance begins.

"Our imaginations are infinite," Costner says as he walks through the corn in a video shown on the screen beyond left field. "Sculpting a baseball diamond from a farmer's field in Iowa. Longing for summer as seasons are painted on its canvas. Once this game and this land touches you, the wind never blows so hard again.

"I'm Kevin Costner, and on this field, we once made a movie about dreams of baseball and years gone by and much more. A tale of love, family, character. The treasure of a single day. America has embraced the heroes of our youth for over a century. Those who ran on grass so green it took your breath away. Touching bases as white as clouds. Tonight, we pause time. In the warmth of August, two major league teams gift us a forever moment. The White Sox, the Yankees, come to our field of dreams and play ball."

As Costner's video introduction concludes, he emerges from the cornstalks

LeMahieu got the Yankees started off on the right foot, leading off the game with a base hit. It was the beginning of an exciting ballgame in which 17 total runs were scored, with the White Sox ultimately coming out on top.

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behind the right-field fence. Slowly, ponderously, he walks to shallow center field. With a baseball in his hand, and with the theme music from the film echoing throughout the ballpark, Costner turns toward the right-field wall.

Seconds later, both teams emerge from the corn, with Judge, Stanton and Joey Gallo among the first out. As the players head toward their respective baselines, many of them stop to greet Costner.

"Thirty years ago, on the other side of that corn, we filmed a movie that stood the test of time," Costner says into a microphone set up near the mound. "Tonight, thanks to the enduring impact that this little movie had, it has allowed us to come here again, but now on a field that Major League Baseball built. We've come to see the first-place White Sox play the mighty Yankees on a field that was once corn. It's perfect. We've kept our promise. Major League Baseball has kept its promise. The dream is still alive.

"There's probably just one question to answer: Is this heaven? Yes, it is. This field is for the players. Good luck today."

Two hours before the first pitch, Judge speaks candidly about what it means to participate in the MLB at Field of Dreams game.

"As a kid, you dream of the chance to play Major League Baseball and you watch certain movies and fairy tales," he says. "Getting the chance to actually be at the Field of Dreams and play a game here and getting to represent the Yankees here, never in my life did I think I'd ever experience this.

"I hope I hit one into the corn. That would be pretty amazing."

In addition to the fans packed into the ballpark, there are plenty more eyes watching. The game averages 5.9 million viewers across Fox and Fox Deportes, making it the most-watched regular-season baseball broadcast on any network since 2005.

So with baseball lovers and cinephiles tuning in, the long wait finally ends when Chicago starter Lance Lynn throws the game's first pitch to DJ LeMahieu. With the count full, the Yankees second baseman gets the first hit in a major league game in the state of Iowa.

But the White Sox retaliate quickly. First baseman José Abreu gives Chicago the lead when he faces Yankees starter Andrew Heaney in the bottom of the frame and

"I hope I hit one into the corn," Judge [top] said before the game, and he did just that, blasting a three-run homer in the third inning that earned him an arm bash from Gardner [above]. After Judge's two-run homer in the ninth brought the Yankees to within a run, Stanton [R] crushed a go-ahead two-run shot of his own – the 330th of his career, but one that "just felt different from anything I've ever experienced."

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reaches the corn, the first of eight longballs on the night.

In the third, Judge gets his wish, launching a three-run homer several yards into the cornstalks beyond the right-field wall off Lynn to put the Yankees up, 3-1.

The Yankees' lead would vanish quickly, though. Chicago scores four runs in the third and two more in the fourth. With his team trailing, 7-3, Gardner leads off the sixth with a solo home run to right. But after that, Chicago's bullpen keeps the Yankees off the scoreboard until the ninth.

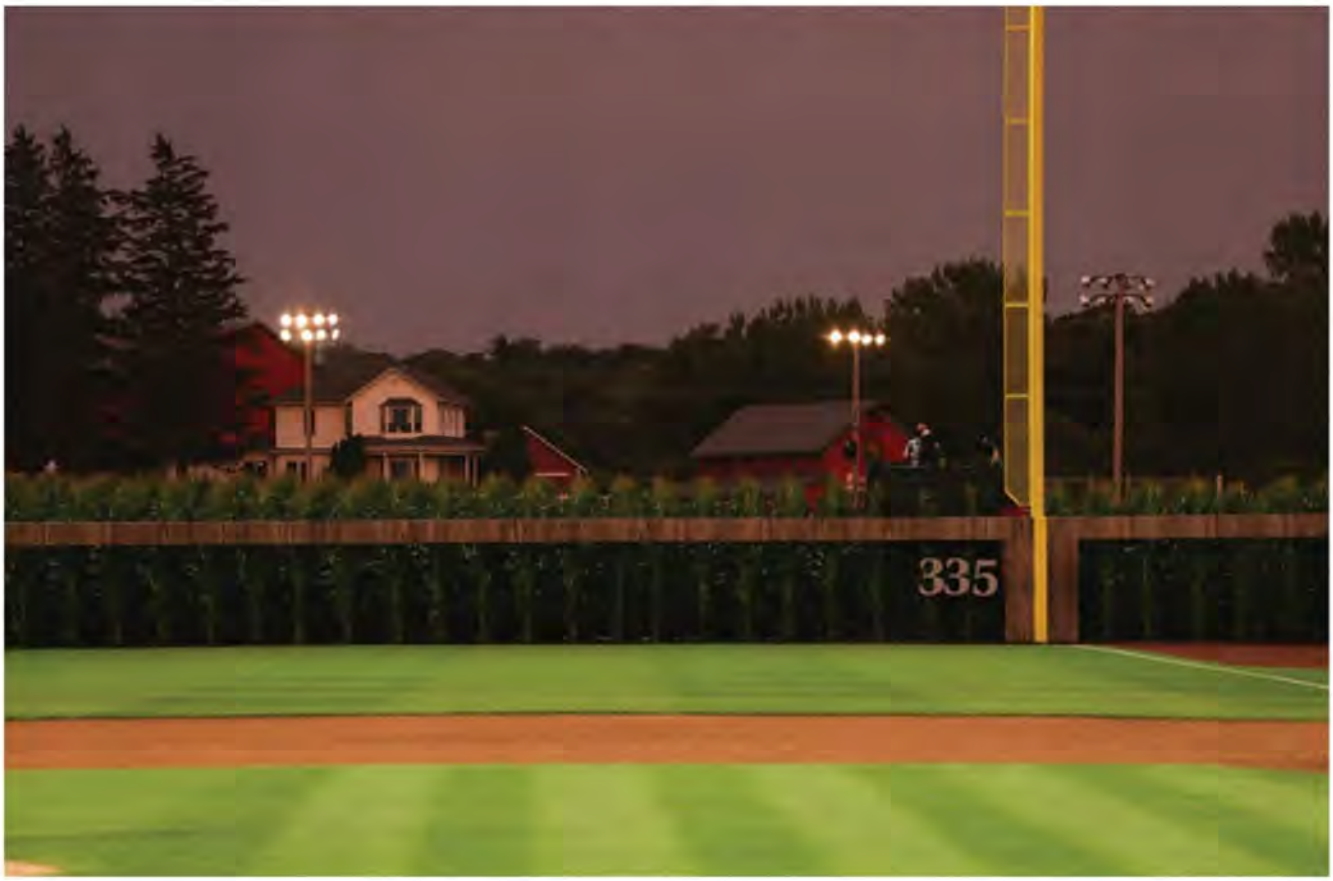
Although seemingly unimaginable, the drama that takes place in the last inning is in many ways as awe-inspiring as what took place in the hours before first pitch. With two outs and trailing, 7-4, Judge comes to the plate. Facing Chicago closer Liam Hendriks, Judge hits his second home run of the night, this one plating shortstop Tyler Wade and bringing the Yankees within one run. Gallo follows with a walk, and Stanton steps into the batter's box with a chance to bring the Yankees all the way back.

The Yankees' slugger comes out swinging. He drives the first offering he sees from Hendriks over the left-field wall and into the cornstalks. Suddenly, the Yankees are ahead, 8-7.

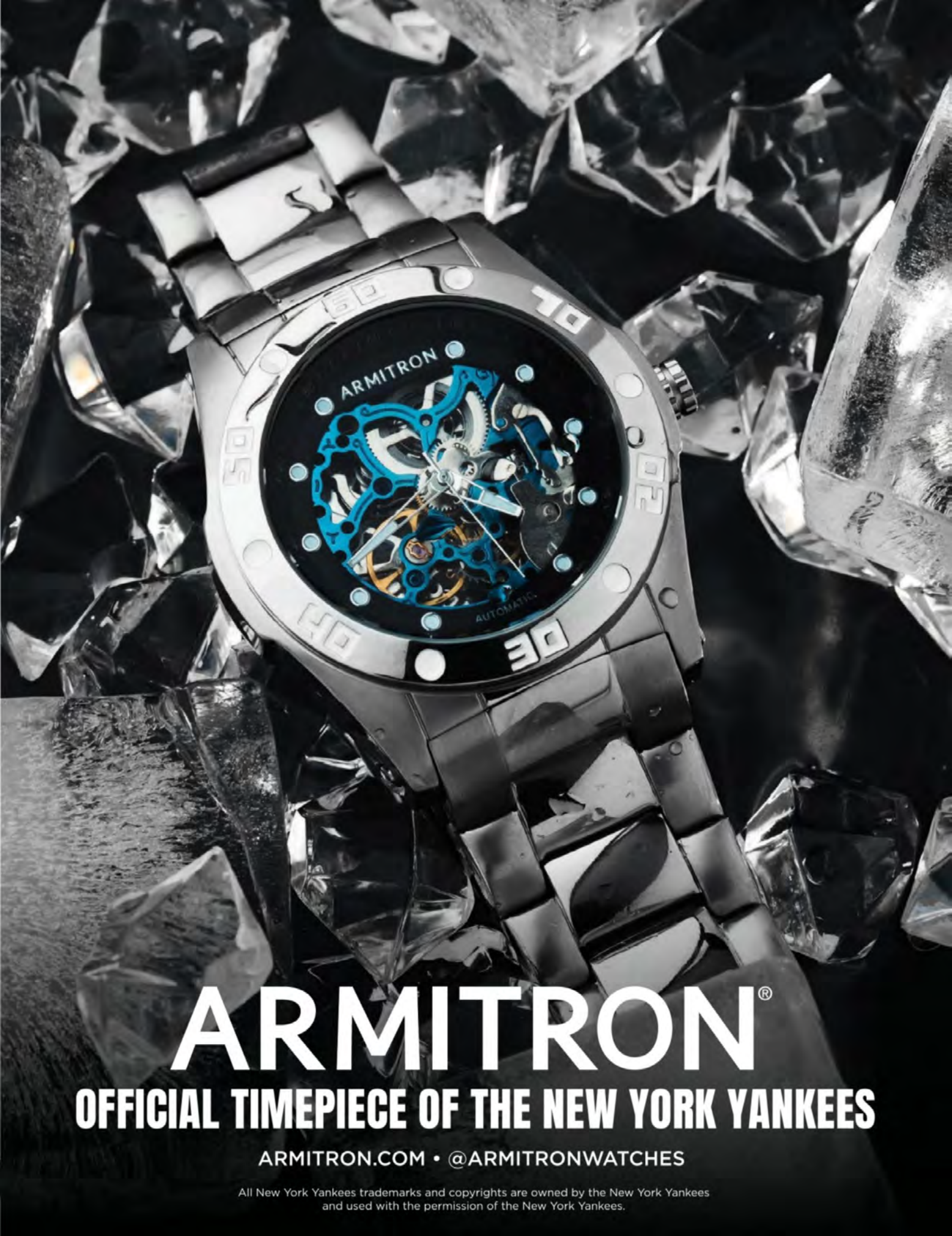
"This one just felt different from anything I've ever experienced," Stanton says later. "It's definitely up there in the special experiences I've had in baseball."

The Yankees have seemingly authored a comeback for the ages, but in the end, reliever Zack Britton can't close things out. He yields a one-out walk to Chicago catcher Seby Zavala on a 3-2 pitch, and All-Star Tim Anderson follows with a two-run walk-off home run. The shortstop's round-tripper marks the White Sox's 15th-ever walk-off homer against the Yankees. The first, fittingly, was hit by Shoeless Joe Jackson, just a few months before the 1919 World Series.

Maybe the ghosts of the old White Sox players intervened, willing Stillman's beloved White Sox to victory. But whether there was something bigger at play or the outcome was simply a product of two teams refusing to give up until there were no more chances to hit, the event was still a dream come true for so many people, reminding us of all that once was good, and that could be again.



The Aug. 12 contest was the most-viewed regular-season game in 16 years, but that metric only begins to measure the impact that the MLB at Field of Dreams game had. On a perfect evening for baseball, fans young and old were reminded of why they fell in love with the game to begin with. For one night, Iowa was most certainly heaven.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ROLLING THUNDER

In JOSH DONALDSON, the Yankees have added another bat capable of making a big noise

By Alfred Santasiere III

"The start of spring training usually isn't this hot," Josh Donaldson says as he finishes an early morning round of hitting at George M. Steinbrenner Field in Tampa, Florida, on the day of the Yankees' first Grapefruit League game.

The newly acquired third baseman is certainly right about the mid-80s temperatures in Florida, but the atmosphere is filled with different types of heat. There is excitement surrounding the team in the wake of the abrupt start to spring, following winter headlines of labor issues. Once a collective bargaining agreement was reached, it seemed the temperature rose literally and figuratively.

Late on Sunday evening, March 13, the Yankees finalized a blockbuster trade with Minnesota that brought Donaldson, a three-time All-Star, to the Yankees along with shortstop Isiah Kiner-Falefa — who won the AL Gold Glove Award at third base in 2020 — and Ben Rortvedt, an up-and-coming catcher, in exchange for Gary Sánchez and Gio Urshela, two players with significant tenures in the Big Apple.

Less than 24 hours later, Donaldson was in Tampa at the Yankees' facility, meeting teammates, learning the lay of the land and quickly ramping up for the start of the regular season on April 7. By the end of the week, Donaldson is finally able to catch his breath — literally. Along with several of the club's other stars, he wasn't on the team's traveling squad for the first game, a Friday matinee against the Pirates in Bradenton. When the cavalcade of players and coaches, staff and most of the members of the media who cover the team pulls out of the Steinbrenner Field parking lots, the facility gets a lot quieter.

Wearing a warm-up jersey and pinstriped baseball pants and still perspiring from his *first* workout of the day, Donaldson sits down at his locker along the back wall of the expansive clubhouse, takes off his spikes and audibly exhales.

marucci
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"Honestly, it was something that I didn't see coming," the 2015 American League MVP says of the trade. "As far as coming to this organization, I was in a whirlwind for the first three or four days, but now, every day that I'm here is more enjoyable than the last. I'm getting to know everyone, and, as far as the staff, I'm learning what each person brings to the table. I think that being here is going to be beneficial for me. I'm really excited about where the journey has taken me."

For Donaldson, that journey comprises an 11-season major league career that began in 2010 with Oakland and has included a cross-country journey of late. Counting the Yankees, the 36-year-old has played for five teams in the last five seasons; even though he has lived it himself, Donaldson can't immediately keep track of all the uniform changes.

"Really, five teams in five years?" he asks when the subject is raised. "Toronto in 2018, Cleveland in the second half of 2018, Atlanta in 2019, Minnesota the last two years and now New York. Yeah, you're right."

Especially at the end of his first week with a new team, Donaldson is keenly aware of the challenges that come with changing uniforms. With a young daughter at home, there's more that needs to be done than just learning the names of his new teammates and figuring out where to find dry socks for the day's next workout.

"A big part of it is just getting acclimated to the environment of the new city, for me and for my family," he says. "Obviously, going to New York City, there are going to be some unique adjustments. That's understandable; it's one of the biggest cities in the world. But as a baseball player, the clubhouse is our environment for the most part. So, for me, getting familiar with the people in this clubhouse, getting to know people, that's the first thing any new player has to do. Luckily, that's one thing, for whatever reason, that I'm pretty comfortable doing."

That adaptability probably has something to do with his experience in being the new guy. Although it wasn't always seamless, all of the trades and the adjustments have made the logistics surrounding this move much less painstaking for Donaldson.

The Yankees are the fifth team that Donaldson will play for in five years, but it didn't take the slugging third baseman long to get comfortable in his new uniform. Although the constant shuffling around the country can be a lot to handle, the 12-year vet says it has made the logistics of this move easier to handle.

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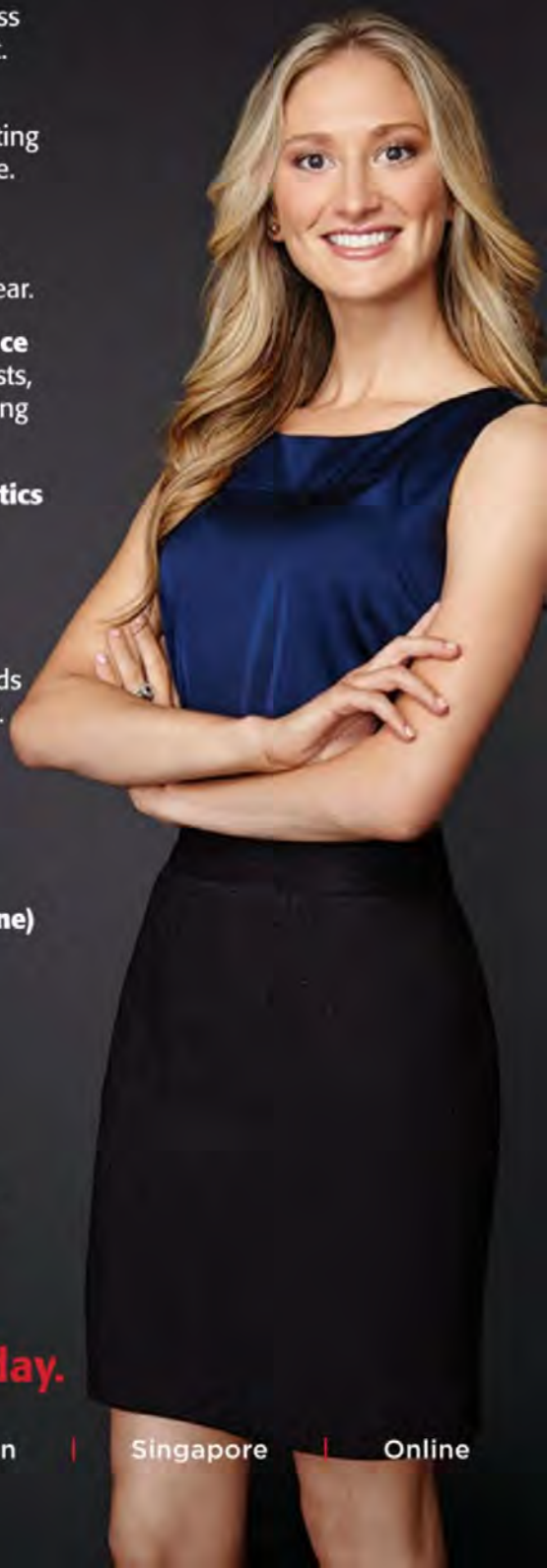

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"It has gotten easier," he says. "You learn what you can do better. That's the main thing. Getting a feel for something as simple as approaching new teammates, that's something that you have to do well. Also, at this point in my career, I've played against most of the guys here for a long time, so they already know me. When I was younger, most of the players in the league didn't know who I was. They didn't know what to expect of me. The more I've been around, the easier it is."

Another reason why this move has gone relatively seamlessly for Donaldson is that he embraces the opportunity to play for a team he has always admired, and he looks forward to taking the field in front of a fan base that he respects.

"I feel like Yankees fans are the definition of what fan is short for — fanatic," Donaldson says. "They are all in, all the time. There are going to be good times and bad times in terms of how we're performing on the field, and they feel that more than most fans. That's a good thing; it means that they are passionate. They are going to find out that I'm passionate about what I do. I'm passionate about this game. I don't think there are too many people who care more about what we are doing as a team than me."

Like most superstars who visit Yankee Stadium, Donaldson has received his fair share of Bronx cheers, especially last season when he publicly called out New York's ace, Gerrit Cole. But, despite all of that, Donaldson can't wait to take the field in his new home ballpark.

"I'm familiar with what it's like to play at Yankee Stadium," Donaldson says. "Now, when I do something good, it will be nice to have the fans cheer for me rather than call me a bum. But I enjoyed the interaction with the fans at Yankee Stadium when I was an opposing player. Even though they were passionate about rooting against me, it didn't bother me at all."

Donaldson feels that the pinstripes suit him. More than that, he hopes to live up to the legacies set by those who preceded him, including one Yankees legend whose blue eyes and muscular physique are similar to those of the team's newest power hitter.

"I'm a huge fan of Mickey Mantle," says Donaldson, who has swatted 251 big-league home runs heading into the 2022 season. "I wish I could have watched him play, but now, getting to wear the pinstripes, the same uniform that he wore, that's pretty special.

"The aura he had, just the presence he still has when people talk about him, that's why I'm in awe of him. The athletic ability that he had is a big part of it. He was a switch-hitter; he hit for power and average, and he was fast. He had all of the tools. When you watch highlights of Mickey Mantle, you realize that he was a magical player."

While Donaldson's list of accomplishments is impressive, he has yet to reach his ultimate goal — winning a championship. Not unlike other players who have come to the Yankees in recent decades, the opportunity to win it all was one of the first things that Donaldson thought about when the trade went down.

"We are going to win a lot of games, and I feel great about going into the season with these guys. You don't always feel that way a few weeks before Opening Day, but I definitely do right now. There is a lot of talent in this clubhouse, and we have a great coaching staff."

The 2015 AL MVP can punish balls from the right-handed batter's box, which makes the newest Yankees slugger fit in well among his new teammates. Donaldson looks forward to feasting off pitchers worn down from at-bats against titans such as Judge and Stanton.

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He's also encouraged by what he has observed in the Bronx during the last few seasons.

"I definitely think from being an opponent of these guys for so many years that this group was really knocking the doors down from the time they all broke into the league," he says. "There are adjustments that players and even teams have to make along the way to get over the hump. You could see over the years that teams were making adjustments against the Yankees, and that the guys in this clubhouse were making counter-adjustments. But I think where the guys on this team are now is a good place. There are a lot of guys on this roster who have really figured out how to go about their business and prepare for each game. They are in position to build off what they have done the last few seasons. The nucleus of this team is confident that they can win a championship, and that's a nice place to be. Hopefully, I can learn from them, and they can learn from me."

When Donaldson highlights the team's greatest assets, he obviously includes Cole. Far from concerned about any lingering issues from last year's drama — including the ferocious staredowns Cole gave Donaldson after two June strikeouts — the Alabama product is excited to share a clubhouse with a bona fide ace.

"With Gerrit, he's been one of, if not the, best pitcher in the game for a while," says Donaldson, who met with Cole on his first day in camp and told reporters that the two had a "good conversation" and cleared the air. "To have that horse who, when he's on the mound, makes it so you expect to win, that's a really good thing. It's especially nice when the postseason starts. That's something I miss about old-school baseball; you used to have those No. 1 starters going against each other. You used to have Roger Clemens going up against Pedro Martínez. You used to have Andy Pettitte going at it with John Smoltz or Greg Maddux. Baseball has lost that a little bit, but at the same time, we have that in Gerrit."

Combine that bulldog ace with an offense that includes fellow sluggers Aaron Judge, Giancarlo Stanton, Joey Gallo and Anthony Rizzo — all of whom have hit at least 25 home runs on multiple occasions — and you can understand why Donaldson feels so excited about what his new team can do.

"The best lineups I've been part of are the ones that, one through nine, have guys who have the ability to take something out of the pitcher," Donaldson says. "They are going to take a piece of the pitcher with them. Regardless of what I do at the plate, I want the pitcher to be like, 'Thank God that at-bat is done.' The problem that pitchers will have with our lineup is that we have so many guys who will make pitchers feel like that. If an opposing pitcher loses focus for a split second, we're going to put a bunch of runs on the board."

"The best lineups I've been part of are the ones that, one through nine, have guys who have the ability to take something out of the pitcher." **—Donaldson**

So, for a fan base craving a championship, what can New York expect from Josh Donaldson? Well, for years now, he has been one of the most prolific home run hitters in baseball, including in his MVP campaign in 2015 when he was in Toronto. That season, he hit 41 home runs and led the AL with 123 RBI and the majors with 122 runs. The following two seasons, he hit 37 and 33 home runs, respectively.

Donaldson missed significant time in 2018 and was traded to Cleveland at the Aug. 31 deadline. But he certainly rebounded. Not only did he hit 37 home runs and drive in 94 runs with Atlanta the following season, but he was also productive during his time in Minnesota. Last year, he hit 26 homers in 135 games

DONALDSON [L] AND JUDGE

for a Twins team that won just 73 games, finishing last in the AL Central.

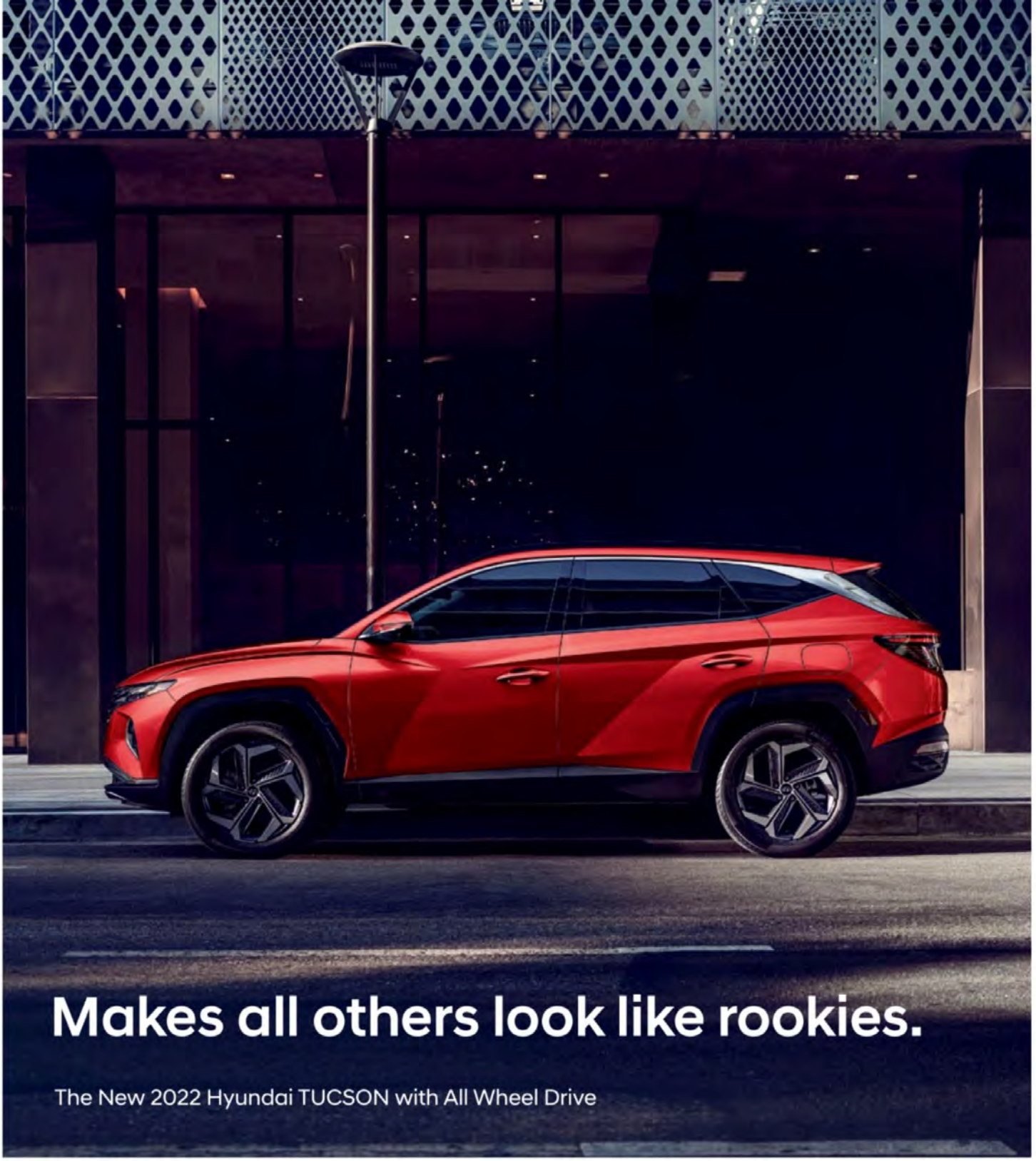
"I felt pretty good about last season overall," says Donaldson, who owns a career .269 average. "From an analytic standpoint, my hard-hit percentage, my exit velocity, average exit velocity and walk rate were all pretty good in comparison to what they were in other years for me. I would have liked to have put the ball in play more consistently, but that's something that I'm working to improve on this spring and this season."

It's no secret that players are widely judged on the numbers they put up, and Donaldson acknowledges that a big year statistically will not only help his team get into the postseason but will also ingratiate him with the Yankees organization and the fan base. But Donaldson uses a different metric to measure his performance.

"I don't really put numbers with success," he says. "In my opinion, that takes away from the process. As a player, I take the field every night asking myself, 'Can I impact the game one time to help our team win?' Once I've done that, I start thinking, 'Can I impact the game two times to help our team win?' I'm focused on what can I do, whether it's on the offensive side or the defensive side or even on the basepaths, to help impact the game. Maybe it comes down to a conversation with a teammate that helps him get a hit because of something that I noticed. If I help a guy who then helps us win the game, that means I had a positive impact on the game that night. It's really a day-by-day approach, and if I impact games throughout the year, my numbers will take care of themselves."

Even when discussing the accomplishment of winning an MVP Award, Donaldson continues to use the same measurement, while also shedding light on the type of teammate he has been.

Donaldson played on some terrific teams in his first 11 seasons, and he has proven what his energy and bat can bring to a club. But like so many of his new teammates, the Alabama product is chasing the ultimate goal of a World Series championship.



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"I look at that award as something that is given to the guy who helps his team win more than anyone else in the league," Donaldson says. "That's how I express value as a player; how much I can help our team win. I felt like over the course of that year, I did a great job of that. That was a special season, not just for me, but for my teammates and for the Blue Jays fans. To be able to win an MVP, and have that type of success, it really wasn't just about me. I had something to do with it, but my teammates did a great job as well. I think that most guys who have ever won an MVP have had teammates who also played really well."

The Yankees' roster is loaded with valuable players, but Donaldson joins Stanton as the only two guys in pinstripes this year to have won the actual award. "The Bringer of Rain" — a nickname inspired by the TV series *Spartacus: Blood and Sand* — expects to enjoy some legendary moments, especially in the Bronx. But as his first week in pinstripes nears its end on a quiet day in Tampa, Donaldson takes another deep breath and focuses on where he is in his baseball journey — and what he hopes to accomplish before it reaches the end of the road.

"When you have a chance to be part of an organization that can win a World Series, you have to realize how lucky you are," he says. "The history that is here, the history of people who have won the World Series for this team, includes a lot of guys. The Yankees have had a lot of success, and the organization and the fan base is partial to the guys who have helped them win over the years. There are a lot of champions who wore pinstripes, and it means a lot to win here, simply because of how passionate the fan base is.

"My goal has been the same for as long as I've been playing. For me, the goal is to win the World Series. I've had some success in the postseason, but winning a championship is one thing I haven't been able to do. My ultimate focus is on helping this team win it all."

Throughout his career, Donaldson has impacted his team's chances of winning in myriad positive ways. The 36-year-old third baseman looks forward to doing the same in the Bronx this season.

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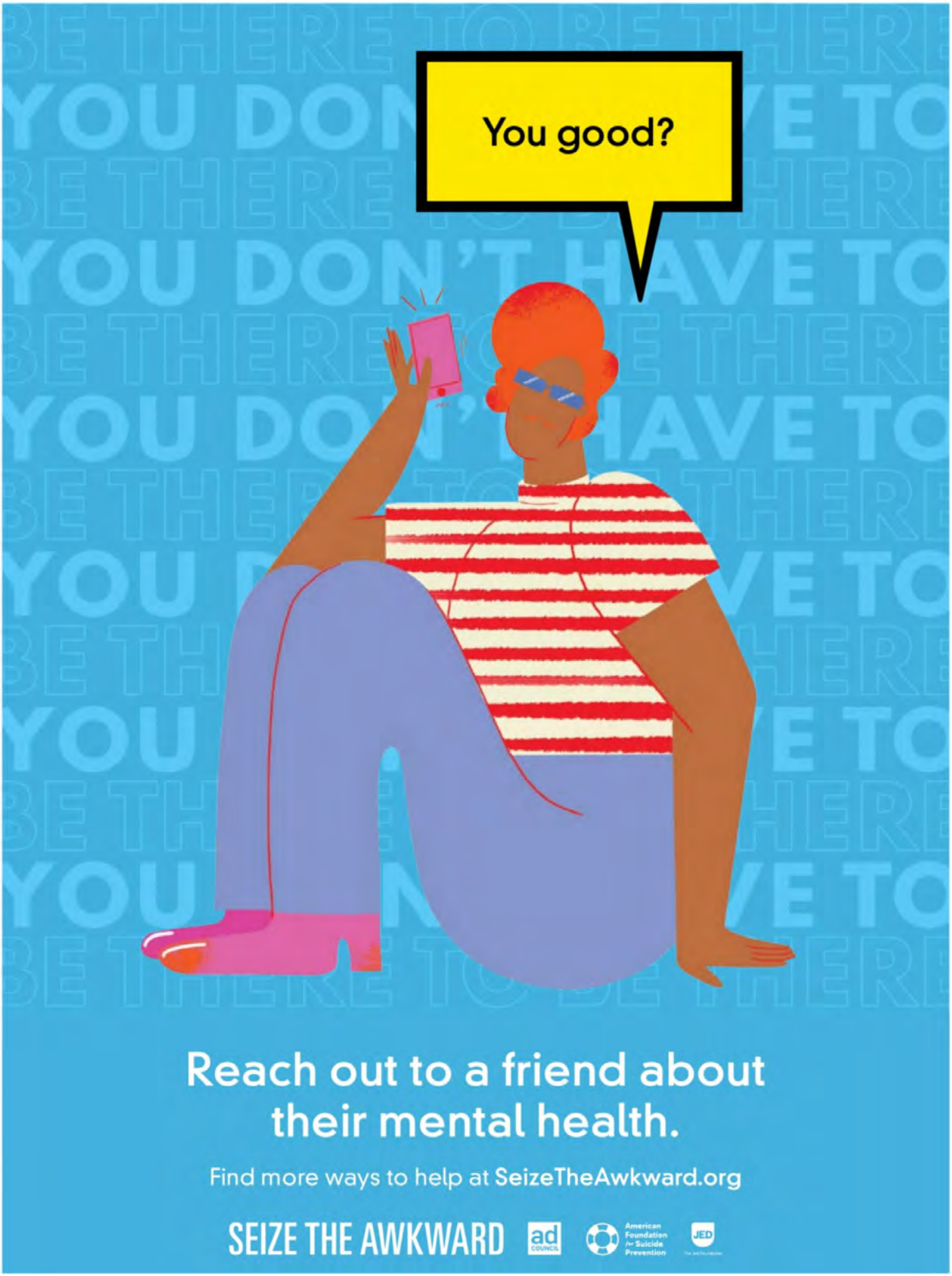
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A CHANGE ~~IS GONNA~~ Has COME

Tampa Tarpons manager RACHEL BALKOVEC — the first female skipper in affiliated professional baseball — brings a lifetime of ceiling-shattering determination and hands-on experience to this leg of the journey

By Jon Schwartz

RACHEL BALKOVEC

"There is nothing in a caterpillar that tells you it's going to be a butterfly."
—R. Buckminster Fuller

It takes four tries to complete a phone conversation with Rachel Balkovec, the new and most-assuredly noteworthy manager of the Tampa Tarpons. The first female to manage a team in affiliated baseball, Balkovec is en route from Santa Barbara, California, to Tampa, Florida, on this mid-January Friday morning. She's somewhere in Texas between El Paso and Austin, not totally sure where, and the thrice-interrupted conversation is at the mercy of some sparsely located cellphone towers.

A cross-country road trip evokes thoughts of beauty and romance, but this 13-ish-hour hitch probably won't rank among the most memorable segments. There's not a whole lot of riveting landscape in the flat, brownish-green expanse of West Texas, just power lines, oil derricks and tumbleweeds. A few days from now, the road will end on the west coast of Florida, but that's not the ultimate destination.

We're supposed to be using this time to celebrate Rachel Balkovec, to recognize a triumphant moment while we dodge the falling shards from a shattered glass ceiling. And we will, you can count on it. But what has made Balkovec's rise so fascinating, and what will no doubt continue to thrill and inspire in the months and years to come, is that the Tarpons gig, while front-page news in some circles, is just a continuation of her life in the sport, a journey no one sees ending in a Low-A manager's office. Hers is a life built atop an opposing, yet codependent reliance on competitive fire and quiet nurturing, of naivete and the pursuit of knowledge, of representation and a conscientious invisibility.

As Balkovec settles into her home in Tampa, the next stop along a life in constant motion that has seen the Nebraska native pursue her dream in locales all over the globe, the 34-year-old will once again hang two pieces of paper in a prominent spot. Now desperately in need of framing, worn from trips around the planet, the messages contained on each center her life. The first contains just four words: "BE A GENERAL MANAGER." (Don't worry about the second sheet yet; we'll get there eventually.) The papers have a way of reminding Balkovec that whether she's in the Dominican Republic or the Netherlands or Australia or, perhaps someday, the Bronx, "I just have to keep the sights set on the future," she says. "And also remind myself of my purpose in life."

Balkovec brushes off any manifestations of curiosity that her players in Tampa might have about playing for a female manager. She, herself, remembers wondering what it would be like to don a Yankees uniform. But after years of climbing the ladder – and of building relationships with many of the players she'll be leading – the Nebraska native has no doubt that she can win over her charges.

The papers, like their crafter, represent the pursuit of an impossible dream. They brush past this historic moment and look forward, stopping time to appreciate the shoulders that Balkovec, herself, has stood on, while bracing to support those who will stand — and, indeed, are already standing — on hers.

"In order to change an existing paradigm, you do not struggle to try and change the problematic model. You create a new model and make the old one obsolete."
—Fuller

Discussing Balkovec's hiring, Yankees general manager Brian Cashman noted the discomfiting reality of suspended progress. He had hired Kim Ng as his assistant general manager in 1998, and as he announced her hiring, Cashman said that he hoped women in positions of prominence in baseball would become commonplace. The Red

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Sox had elevated Elaine Steward to assistant GM in 1990, and less than a decade later, Ng was in the same role.

Yet, as Cashman noted this past January, and as Jean Afterman — who replaced Ng as the Yankees' assistant GM in December 2001 and continues to hold the role today — says, the lack of continuity and progress has been disheartening.

"It was Elaine at the Red Sox, and there was Kim, then there was myself, and then there was a dead ... stop," Afterman says, peppering her sentiment with a well-earned expletive.

While Cashman, Afterman and anyone else who cares to see a more representative baseball landscape are right to be disappointed by a lack of overwhelming progress, there are still positive developments to celebrate. Today, Ng is the Miami Marlins' general manager, the first woman to hold that role for a big-league organization. The San Francisco Giants have Alyssa Nakken as a full-time coach, and there will be at least 11 women in uniform for big-league teams and their affiliates this year, as well as an ever-increasing number of women in front-office positions.

For Julie Croteau, that evolution has been a long time coming. "My entire life, I've seen that baseball is not a gendered game," says Croteau, who is recognized as the first woman to play men's NCAA baseball. At St. Mary's College of Maryland, she played first base, including in games against a Catholic University team that featured Cashman at second base. "It doesn't surprise me that women can fill these positions. A lot of people have known that for a really long time. And we're just finally seeing it happen. Each one of those positions — manager, base coach, strength coach, assistant coaches — once it's happened, there's a precedent, and there's less reason for it not to happen again in the future."

Croteau's perspective has changed as the world has evolved, in no small part due to her own actions. Before she played for St. Mary's, before the professional stint with the Colorado Silver Bullets, before appearing as a baseball double in *A League of Their Own*, Croteau and her parents had to file a sex discrimination suit against her high school. The boys on the team joined their coach in fighting against her, insisting that the varsity team had to field the best 17 players possible, a list they said couldn't possibly include a girl. (As for the reality that the team had finished 4-13-1 the previous year? Well, there's a reason that high schoolers rarely craft legal briefs.)

The court still ruled against Croteau, but St. Mary's allowed her to try out for its team, and she earned a spot. Several years later, upon being signed by the Silver Bullets — a professional women's team that played against men — she put the experience of her life to that point in perspective. "It's a dream I didn't even dream," she told the Associated Press in 1994. "I was afraid to dream it. High school (varsity baseball) was my dream."

Speaking now, in the afterglow of Balkovec's ascension, Croteau is elated at the shift. "In terms of what young girls or young women can dream about now, the whole landscape has changed; everything is possible, right?" she says. "In high school, I do remember, when we [lost] that suit, crying and saying, 'I hope I made a difference for someone.' And really believing that. And of course, I'd love to believe that part of my negative experience helped other people not have that same experience. But I think that all progress in life is cumulative."

Afterman regularly points out that Cashman is the only GM in professional sports to have hired two female assistant GMs back to back, and she's equally keen on insisting that such decisions are never made for history's sake. "At the Yankees," Afterman says, "we're all about winning, and hiring the best and promoting the best. Women in our organization are not a novelty, and it's nothing new." Still, Cashman says, harking back to his college games against Croteau, "There's always a first. There's always someone that emerges, that's not afraid, that wants it, that goes after it, and is strong enough to take it.

"And unfortunately, in some categories, it takes longer than others. And

Yankees general manager Brian Cashman has a history of seeking out talent of all genders. He hired Ng [L] as his assistant GM in 1998, then when she left, brought on Afterman [R, with Aaron Boone] as her replacement. Two decades ago, he hoped that it would be common to see women in leadership roles around the game, and he is disheartened by the slow pace of progress.

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unfortunately, society had failed to recognize the strength and power and the equal power — if not more power — that women possess."

"We are called to be architects of the future, not its victims."
—Fuller

Dillon Lawson had just been hired as Yankees minor league hitting coordinator after the 2018 season when he found himself sitting at a table with the organization's player development staff. They were brainstorming some potential hires to coach hitting in the organization, Lawson recalls, and one of the first names he mentioned was Balkovec's. It wasn't a favor for a friend, and it certainly wasn't with cheap headlines in mind.

"I was not in a position to hire someone and miss on them," says Lawson, now entering his first season as the Yankees' major league hitting coach. "I needed to hire people that were good. She is more than qualified to have the hitting coach position, the managerial position. I would say she's overqualified for those jobs."

Lawson and Balkovec worked together in the Astros organization, after her stints with the Cardinals and White Sox, plus time with Licey in the Dominican Winter League (to say nothing of work she put in with college programs and the Arizona Fall League). She had come up through the ranks as a strength and conditioning coach, but found herself so taken by the way Lawson discussed his craft that she would pop in on hitting meetings whenever possible. Watching him teach hitting — talking about the skill in ways totally alien to her despite years spent playing high-level college softball and working with professional baseball organizations — called to mind the lessons from another one of her mentors, current Cardinals hitting coach Jeff Albert: *When everyone's at a crowded door, you should be looking for the empty door on the other side of the building that no one's going in. You should find the edge because it's going to make you unique.*

Although her first roles in professional baseball were on the strength and conditioning side of the clubhouse, Balkovec impressed her future bosses with the way that she understood the connection between all of the physical elements of a swing. That knowledge (and hunger for more of it) made it easy for Balkovec to shift from the weight room to the batting cages.

You don't see a lot of strength and conditioning coaches rising to become general managers, so Balkovec felt a need to get on the field and evaluate players from a baseball perspective. And as Lawson kept indulging her curiosity with a steady stream of books and magazine articles — including some research works by a professor in Amsterdam named Dr. David Mann — Balkovec saw a new road.

"The body is the body, right?" she says, noting that she had been coaching players for seven seasons to that point, just not with a focus on skill work. "It doesn't change when you go from the weight room to the cages. You're just accomplishing a different task."

Lawson, too, saw the unusual background not as a detriment, but as a potential advantage. "She would start talking about how they squat and how we could switch it to do this, make this adjustment, and that we'd likely see some difference, some positive effects in the cage or on the field," he says. "And so, it started back then, just kind of thinking about what she did as the strength coach, how that affected hitting. It's clear she can digest information, she can think critically, she can apply that information, she can assess the results of her efforts, and then do it again."

So — as is her style — Balkovec took everything several steps further. It wasn't enough to read the articles that Lawson sent her way, the ones that she had to stop poring over about 10 times each to Google the unfamiliar terminology. If Mann — regarded as one of the world's foremost experts in eye-tracking analysis, a new frontier that could help the ever-more-analytical baseball world find a new edge — had answers, then she would go to the source.

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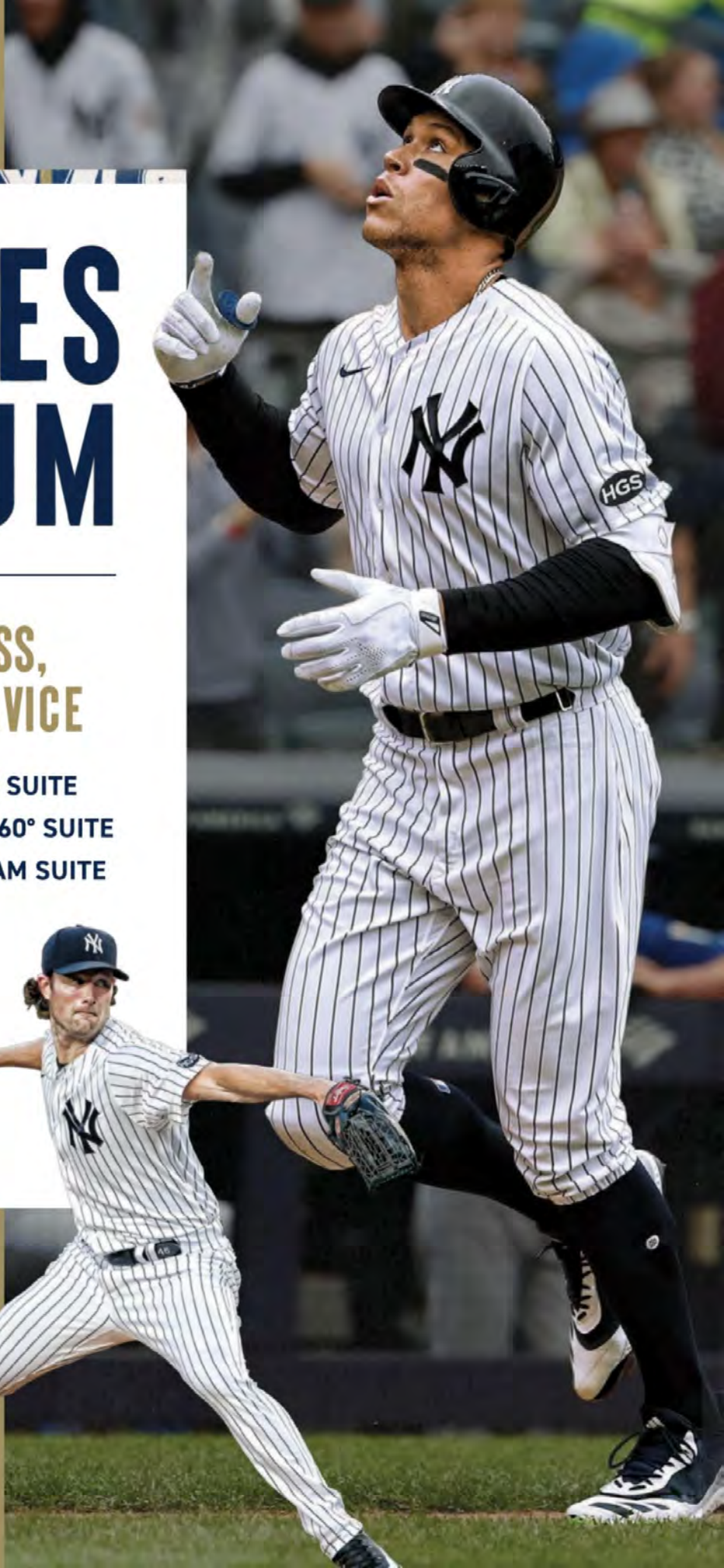

RACHEL BALKOVEC

The program at Vrije Universiteit in Amsterdam called for several months of study, then a research project. Balkovec wanted to conduct her research in eye-tracking at Driveline Baseball, a state-of-the-art, highly regarded facility outside of Seattle. Several months into the program, she presented her research proposal to Mann. "And what she sent me wasn't very good," he says. "It was way below the level that I would expect." Balkovec laughs at being reminded of the initial proposal; she's not offended by the memory at all. "I had come with so much practical experience into this research environment where there's all these researchers that are writing research papers, and they don't ever set foot on a baseball field," she says. "I was coming in like a barbarian. I didn't know how to write research papers!"

She used the next month to revise her proposal. Her classmates would spend weekends enjoying Amsterdam's nightlife or skiing in Switzerland, while Balkovec lived like a hermit. "I was so focused. I was in this worldwide tourism mecca, and I did nothing there." It's not that she's indifferent to adventure or travel. Even beyond selling everything she owned to move to Amsterdam on a whim, Balkovec has a bit of a thing for jumping from one part of the world to another, and a tendency for buying one-way tickets that, if she's not careful, could land her on some watch lists. In 2020, when the minor league season was shut down due to COVID-19, she decamped for Australia and coached with the Sydney Blue Sox. A few years earlier, she spent a few weeks in a tiny village in Laos, one that you can't find on Google Maps. It was like a sensory deprivation chamber, where the lack of any English-speakers and the time difference allowed her to recharge with almost no inputs. It's not all that different from what she did in the Netherlands.

Going to Amsterdam wasn't about getting away; it was about diving in. She would ask herself why she was "studying neurology in this godforsaken place, where they only get six hours of sunlight during the winter and you're just miserable," and the answers focused her mission. School wasn't anything new to Balkovec, who earned her bachelor's degree while playing softball at New Mexico and got a master's while working at LSU. But those degrees were a means to play and coach. This time, she was pursuing the knowledge, not some letters next to her name. In fact, as she points out, she never even completed the program. "People didn't understand — 'You did all of this coursework, you finished literally everything, you're almost at the finish line. Why wouldn't you just finish it?' I just said, 'I didn't need the degree, I needed the information. I needed to learn.'"

About a month after reading her first draft, Mann couldn't believe the revised proposal. "It went from quite a low-level thing to an incredibly high-level thing in one round, which is more than I think I've ever seen anyone do," he says. "To go from here to there in one round of review has always blown me away."

"And that," Balkovec says with pride, "is how you get hired by the Yankees."

"Never forget, no matter how overwhelming life's challenges and problems seem to be, that one person can make a difference in the world. In fact, it is always because of one person that all the changes that matter in the world come about. So be that one person."
—Fuller

Priscilla Oppenheimer — whose son, Damon, is the Yankees' VP of domestic amateur scouting — spent more than 15 years running the Padres' minor league operations. When the team drafted Matt LaChappa in the second round in 1993, the prospect's mother saw a potential nurturing figure for her son. She asked Oppenheimer to take care of him. So when the pitcher suffered a heart attack in the bullpen in 1996, and another at the hospital hours later that left him with a serious brain injury, Oppenheimer made good on her promise. In the quarter century since, and even after Oppenheimer retired, the Padres have continued renewing LaChappa's minor league contract every year, giving him access to health insurance that might be unavailable to him otherwise.

It's impossible to know whether a man in Oppenheimer's position would have handled the situation the same way, and it's also not totally the point. The reality is that while there was some inevitable social media chatter after Balkovec's hire wondering how a woman might manage a minor league team, the better question might just be the same one that every front office is constantly asking: How can this decision make us incrementally better? Or to put a finer point on it, What advantages might a woman bring to the role that have never been considered, let alone employed?

Maybe it's retrogressive to lean on gender norms in today's environment, but women who have ascended to the highest levels in sports recognize the advantages that they can offer in a room full of men. Afterman says she considers herself fortunate to have worked with people who have embraced her for who she is instead of encouraging her to fit an existing mold. She sees the same potential for Balkovec. "That's all we've got,

is just being who we are," Afterman says. And if you're lucky, as I've been, then you have people who recognize and appreciate your authentic self. And if you're unlucky, then you work with people who want to change you into somebody you're not.

"As women, we solve problems differently than men do — that's something that a woman brings to the job. I think that Rachel is not just any woman. She's a woman who's been formed by her life experience and who she is."

It's a lesson that Nakken has learned in San Francisco, but it goes back even further. Sue Falsone was the Dodgers' head athletic trainer in the early 2010s, the first woman to hold that role for any major American pro sports team. She proudly speaks of the work she did with the players, but also of the four-inch Christian Louboutin heels and fashionable, yet professional dresses that she wore on the team plane.

As a Low-A manager, Balkovec will be leading young, inexperienced prospects, some of whom will be playing their first full year of professional baseball. She wants to be a nurturing and reliable leader, and she plans to set clear standards, but she also will preach the same commitment to competition that has fueled her own rise in the sport.

"For me, it was important to maintain my identity, whether that was through my style, my faith, my values, irrespective to what others wanted me to do in that role," Falsone says. Yet that insistence on authenticity also helped Falsone access parts of her identity that made her a successful athletic trainer. "I think sometimes women in general sort of have that nurturing thing about them, and I've always taken that approach to patients. Patients need to be nurtured, and I don't mean that in a condescending way. I mean that in a healing way."

Balkovec looks forward to creating a culture that is both caring and competitive, with high and clearly communicated standards. Having taught herself Spanish when she was hired as the Astros' Latin America strength and conditioning coordinator in 2016, she is nearly fluent, and ready to help some of the youngest prospects in the organization, many of whom will still be adjusting to life in the United States. She says that she wants to know their wives' and girlfriends' and dogs' names, and to be someone they can rely on for both physical and emotional support. But she also wants to create her own version of the "competitive cauldron," a coaching philosophy made famous by Anson Dorrance, whose University of North Carolina women's soccer teams have won 21 NCAA titles.

The philosophy encourages competition among players, which is particularly useful in a minor league system where development often takes priority over wins and losses. Balkovec wants to assign everything a point value — whether it's arriving on time and keeping a clean locker, or attempting a stolen base and hitting the cutoff man. Based on what she has seen and read, Balkovec is a big believer in using behavioral psychology to get the most out of players. "It's something that great coaches have done for decades," she says. "And I am so excited to do it this year."

She thinks that the balance can work in part because the curiosity of having a woman managing can also tamp down some of the egos that dominate professional sports environments. Forget for one second that most young prospects in the Yankees' system know Balkovec by this point and have been working with her for several years. More importantly, as she has seen in weight rooms for years, and clubhouses more recently, she knows that players simply have to view her differently than they would most of the coaches they've had in their lives.

"No matter what, a former major league player walks in the room and immediately their ego swallows up everybody else in a minor league clubhouse," she says. "And for me, it's like they don't ever feel like they're competing with me. That's an advantage. I know that I wouldn't call myself the most empathetic woman out there, but I do think that there's a sense of it. They call me Mom. As they're calling me Mom, they're calling me a loving, caring figure. They're probably also calling me a *strict*, loving, caring figure.

The National Baseball Hall of Fame — which already has artifacts such as a glove used by Julie Croteau and the jersey that Alyssa Nakken wore when she first coached on the field for the San Francisco Giants — should make room for some new items once the Tarpons' season starts. From lineup cards to uniforms, Balkovec figures to create plenty of historic relics in 2022.

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Because I'm their mom, I'm on them all the time. So, I think that's the advantage: You're not competing with me. That just takes out so much worry when you have to have a tough conversation. It's not me flexing my ego. It's literally that I care about you."

"If you are in a shipwreck and all the boats are gone, a piano top buoyant enough to keep you afloat that comes along makes a fortuitous life preserver. But this is not to say that the best way to design a life preserver is in the form of a piano top."

—Fuller

There's a naivete that Balkovec admits to, perhaps even clings to. She has enough experience to be cynical; she famously changed her resume to read "Rae Balkovec" after realizing that she wasn't getting jobs that she was overqualified for due to the fact that she was a woman. She recalls with gratitude one instance in which she interviewed with a team, and at least the employer had the decency to tell her that she deserved the job but that the owner wouldn't hire a woman for the role.

"My father and mother, they deserve an award," she says. "They literally raised three girls to be absolute hellions. And we didn't know that it wasn't possible. So, by the time I was 23 … I thought, 'I'm at LSU! I have this great resume for a young coach. Oh, they'll hire me.' And it was quite a bumpy road for a little bit there. But I think that naivete really helped me because I just didn't know what I was up against. And that was great because I might have stopped."

Instead, she chose to live a life of purpose, with two guiding principles that she wrote on pieces of paper and hung on the wall. The first — BE A GENERAL MANAGER — is a lofty goal that seems more realistic every day.

The other is a quote from legendary architect, author, inventor and futurist R. Buckminster Fuller. It is a philosophical exercise that seems crafted specifically for an impatient and ambitious person such as Rachel Balkovec, whose ascent is certainly far from over: "What is my job on this planet? What is it that needs doing,

It's not often you hear someone credit their own naivete for their historic rise, but Balkovec says that part of what has allowed her to break barriers in baseball is the fact that it simply never seemed impossible to her. Even as she fought against blatant discrimination, she always held on to the belief that someone would recognize what she could offer.

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that I know something about, that probably won't happen unless I take responsibility for it?"

Balkovec has lived her life trying to answer those questions. She was born in 1987, just a year before Julie Croteau sued for the right to play high school baseball. Croteau couldn't conceive of a dream greater than that. Today, young women see so much more. That's due to figures such as Croteau and Falsone and Nakken and Ng and Afterman, and certainly Balkovec.

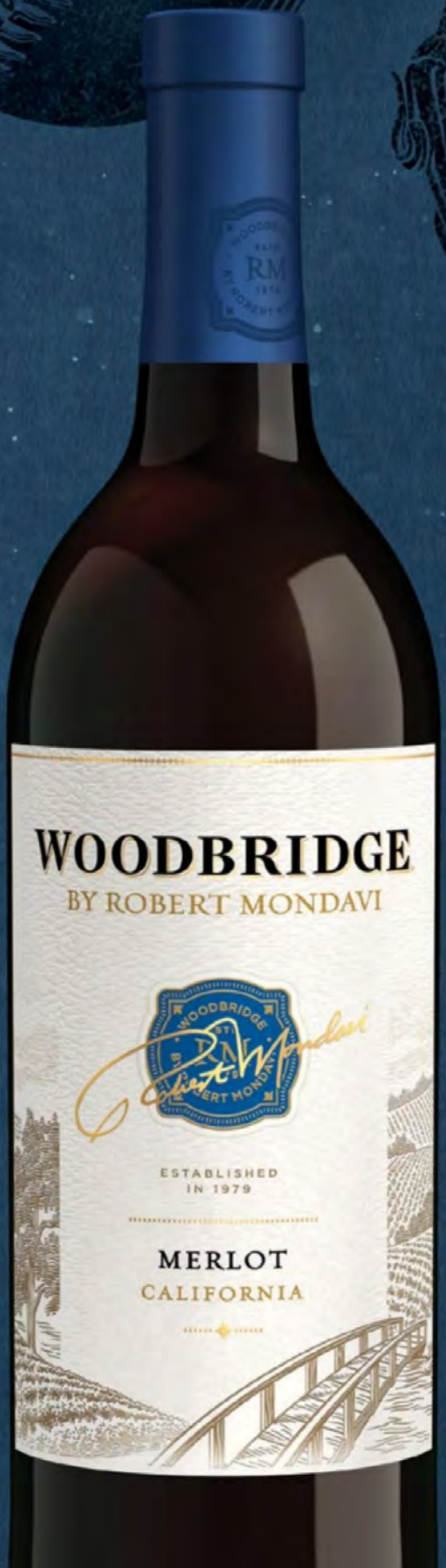
Fair or not, the road is harder for pioneers. There is a constant need to accept the counterbalance of celebrating each achievement while demanding more. "Part of me is like, 'I hope one day, it's not a huge story that a female gets promoted to manager,'" says Nakken, who insists that she views it as her responsibility — and her great joy — to talk about the Yankees' current Low-A manager in a way that she never would be expected to talk about any other opposing team's minor league manager. "But at the same time, I think it's very necessary that we highlight it, bring it to light, show it in every single headline on every single news station, so that young women and men can see representation from all walks of life in different roles, particularly leadership roles."

There's another Fuller quote that seems apropos, one that the Tampa Tarpons' new manager has lived, even if it's not on her wall. "Dare to be naive." As Balkovec has said, there's power in the fact that she never gave in, and that she's not going to now. Ask where her confidence stems from, and she'll list the players she has worked with, the relationships she has built, the knowledge she has gained. It's all pretty simple to her. "It's 10 years of experience," she says, as if nothing can go wrong.

But her history — and that of all the women who came before her in the sport, and those who will come after — is about making the adjustments to stay on the path, but also letting one's authentic self blaze the right trail. "Any player that's ever worked with me, which I think is probably into the thousands now, it's changed their mind, for sure. If they didn't think it was possible before, they know it's possible now.

"I just think it's an honor to be the person that gets to change their mind. Because I know I'm going to change their mind."

Historic firsts abound in Tampa, where every step Balkovec takes will be more closely watched than ever before. But this moment represents an important opportunity – both for the Tarpons manager and for the baseball world – to create a new balance. While Balkovec's hiring is certainly something to be celebrated, true progress will come when seeing women in such roles is less of a rarity.



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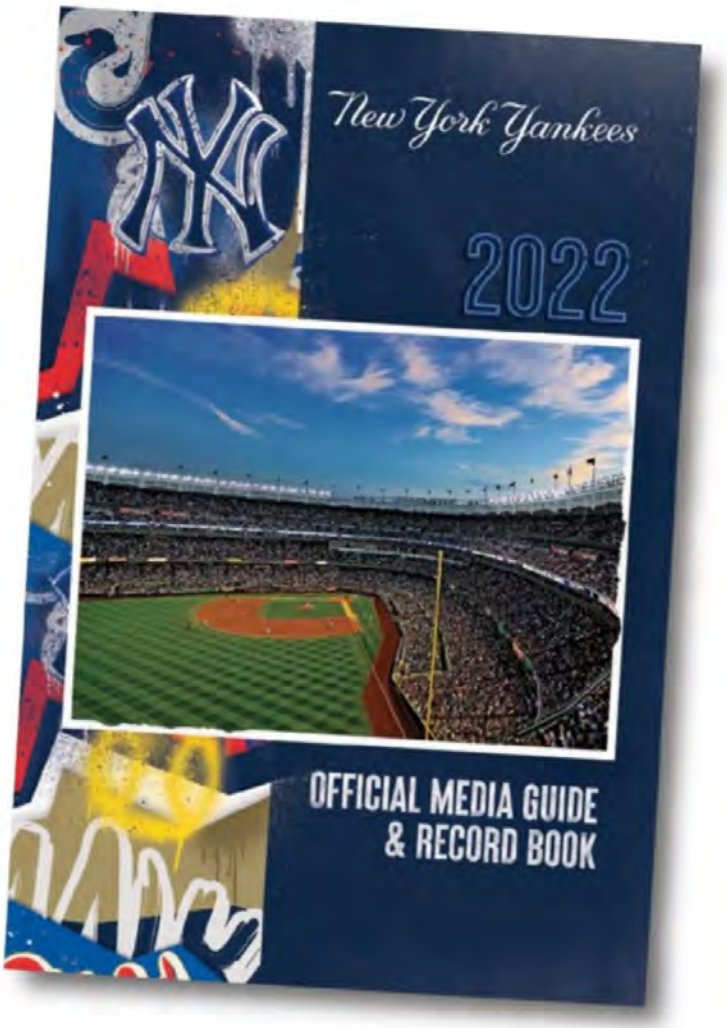

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READY FOR TAKEOFF

THE 2022 YANKEES HAVE ONLY ONE DESTINATION IN MIND: THE WORLD SERIES

BY NATHAN MACIBORSKI

For baseball fans of a certain age, the image of Rickey Henderson creeping off first, about to swipe second, is permanently seared into our memory banks. For 25 big-league seasons, including five with the Yankees, the leadoff man extraordinaire would find some way to reach first base, and then the anticipation would begin to swell. All eyes locked on Rickey, wondering not if, but *when*, he was going to take off. The Man of Steal would take a short lead — he loathed having to dive back into first — and crouch down low with his forearms resting on his powerful thighs. Stillness, save for his fingertips wriggling in the air.

And then … *boom*. Like a cannonball shot from the deck of a great ship, Henderson would be traveling at light speed in an eyeblink. Whether you're old enough to have seen it yourself or you have only read stories, it was a phenomenon that hasn't been replicated since. But that feeling of anticipation, knowing that something big was about to happen, did revisit the sport earlier this year.

When MLB's collective bargaining agreement expired last December, it gave way to a cold, quiet winter in which teams and players had no contact with each other, no trades were consummated, no star free agents found new homes. As the lockout approached its 100th day, and with the start of spring training and the regular season's first two series already postponed, all eyes were fixated on Major League Baseball. Would the two sides hammer out an agreement, or was the season in actual jeopardy?

Then, on Day 99 … *boom*. With a deal in place, the sport sprang to life, with all 30 teams racing to make up for lost time.

It was unlike anything we'd ever seen before. Mandatory report day for spring training was March 13, with the first games played just five days later. Wheeling and dealing happened at a breakneck pace. Just before midnight on March 13, the Yankees issued a press release announcing that they had obtained former American League MVP Josh Donaldson, shortstop Isiah Kiner-Falefa and catcher Ben Rortvedt from Minnesota in exchange for Gary Sánchez and Gio Urshela. On the 17th, they announced the re-signing of Anthony Rizzo. And the assumption was that Yankees general manager Brian Cashman still hadn't finished retooling the roster.

Will Cashman's moves pay off, with the team sliding in safely come October? Only time will tell. But this much is certain: The waiting is over. The 2022 New York Yankees are barreling full steam ahead.

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17 1:05 YES BAL	18	19 6:40 YES DET	20 6:40 YES DET	21 1:10 YES DET	22 7:05 PRIME CLE	23 1:05 YES CLE
24 1:35 YES CLE	25	26 7:05 YES BAL	27 7:05 YES BAL	28 1:05 YES BAL	29 8:10 APPLE KC	30 7:10 YES KC

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The Yankees' offseason moves led to HIGASHIOKA taking over first-string catching duties in '22. After being eliminated by Boston in 2021, he and Cole don't have to wait long for another crack at their rivals.

The 120th season of Yankees baseball begins the same way season No. 119 ended: against the Red Sox. One of the great rivalries in sports resumes at Yankee Stadium, with **GERRIT COLE** expected to make his third Opening Day start in as many years with the Yankees. The ace right-hander's 2021 campaign ended with a loss at Fenway Park in the American League Wild Card Game, but Cole has surely turned the page, as he and the Yankees focus on earning one of two byes under the new postseason format and heading straight to the Division Series. (Four additional teams will play best-of-three Wild Card Series for the right to advance.) Getting off to a good start and taking care of business against AL East foes will go a long way toward realizing that goal.

Toronto comes to town next as part of the season-opening homestand. The Blue Jays spoiled the Yanks' opener in 2021 when a 10th-inning leadoff double plated the go-ahead run. That quirky rule — beginning extra innings with a runner on second — is back in 2022, which might be a good thing for the Yankees: In 2021, they played 18 games that went to extras, winning 10 of them.

All those extra frames can be taxing on catchers, but the Yankees are in good hands with **KYLE HIGASHIOKA** behind the plate. The longest-tenured member of the team ascends to the first-string role this season, looking to build upon the experience he gained in '21, when he saw more big-league action than ever before. He'll be aided by newcomer **BEN RORTVEDT**, who was acquired as part of a five-player trade with Minnesota in March.

When the Yankees travel to Baltimore for their first road games of the season, they'll encounter a wall in left field that is 5 feet higher and 30 feet farther away than in years past. Even with the previous hitter-friendly dimensions, pitching at Oriole Park at Camden Yards has generally gone well for **LUIS SEVERINO**, who is expected to be a big part of the Yankees' rotation this season. The 28-year-old right-hander hasn't pitched in Baltimore since 2018, but in his last five appearances there, he went 3-0 with a 3.15 ERA.

The Yankees' second homestand in April sees the newly renamed Cleveland Guardians come to town for a three-game set. When the Yanks traveled to Cleveland last April, they took the first three games of that series, with **LUCAS LUETGE** winning his first game since 2013. Along with **WANDY PERALTA** and **JOELY RODRÍGUEZ**, Luetge gives manager Aaron Boone several excellent left-handed middle relief options, each of whom posted a sub-3.00 ERA for the Yankees in 2021.

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8 1:35 YES TEX	9	10 7:05 YES TOR	11 12:35 YES TOR	12 8:10 YES CWS	13 8:10 PRIME CWS	14 7:10 YES CWS
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22 7:05 ESPN CWS	23 7:05 YES BAL	24 7:05 YES BAL	25 7:05 YES BAL	26 6:40 YES TB	27 7:10 PRIME TB	28 4:10 YES TB
29 1:40 YES TB	30	31 7:05 YES LAA				

HICKS

Whatever is asked of CORTES, the southpaw delivers. Whether starting or in relief, the 27-year-old confounds opposing batters with his funky deliveries and four-pitch arsenal.

When the calendar flips to May, the Yankees will be in Kansas City, where **AARON HICKS** hit the team's most recent inside-the-park home run off Danny Duffy in May of 2018. Hicks went on to play in a career-high 137 games that season and tied for second on the Yankees with 27 home runs. A return to that type of production in 2022 would be huge for the 32-year-old center fielder, who was limited to just 32 games in 2021.

Another outfielder who would welcome a return to his 2018 form is **MIGUEL ANDÚJAR**, whose 27 homers and 92 RBI that season were topped only by Giancarlo Stanton's 38 and 100. In the three seasons since finishing runner-up to Shohei Ohtani in the 2018 AL Rookie of the Year voting, Andújar appeared in just 78 games while switching from third base to outfield. When healthy, both Hicks and Andújar have the potential to give opposing pitchers nightmares.

Yankees pitching coach Matt Blake can rest easy at night knowing that he'll once again have a deep and talented stable of arms at his disposal. The Yankees' 13-game winning streak last August began with four different pitchers — **ALBERT ABREU, WANDY PERALTA, CHAD GREEN** and **JONATHAN LOÁISIGA** — recording saves on consecutive days. Green and **MICHAEL KING** each tossed immaculate innings in 2021. **CLAY HOLMES** joined the team in July and produced a 0.79 WHIP to go with a 34:4 strikeout-to-walk ratio. All figure to be in the mix again this season.

Ask anyone on last year's team who the biggest breakout star was, and they'll tell you it was **NESTOR CORTES**. The 27-year-old Cuba-born, Florida-raised left-hander was a revelation, providing the Yankees with solid innings whenever called upon. After posting a 1.02 ERA in seven relief appearances, Cortes joined the rotation in July and saw the Yankees win each of his first four starts and four of his five starts in September. This May, he returns to Chicago's Guaranteed Rate Field — the site of his first career victory during his first tour of duty with the Yankees in 2019 and where he shut down the eventual AL Central champions with six innings of one-run ball last August. Whichever manner in which Blake and manager Aaron Boone choose to deploy Cortes in 2022, they can feel confident that the crafty southpaw's unorthodox deliveries will continue to give hitters fits.

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JUNE

● HOME ○ AWAY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 7:05 YES LAA	2 7:05 YES LAA	3 7:05 APPLE DET	4 1:05 YES DET
5 1:35 YES DET*	6	7 7:40 YES MIN	8 7:40 YES MIN	9 7:40 YES MIN	10 7:05 PRIME CHC	11 7:15 FOX CHC
12 1:35 YES CHC*	13	14 7:05 YES TB	15 7:05 YES TB	16 7:05 YES TB	17 7:07 YES TOR	18 3:07 YES TOR
19 1:37 YES TOR	20 7:10 YES TB	21 7:10 YES TB	22 7:10 YES TB	23 7:05 YES HOU	24 7:05 PRIME HOU	25 1:05 YES HOU
26 1:35 YES HOU*	27 7:05 YES OAK	28 7:05 YES OAK	29 1:05 YES OAK	30 6:10 YES HOU		

TORRES

The Yankees begin interleague play in June by hosting a three-game series with the Cubs that will give **ANTHONY RIZZO** an opportunity to face the team he won a World Series with in 2016. The slick fielding, left-handed first baseman was traded to the Yankees last July and re-signed with the team in March, leading Yanks general manager Brian Cashman to trade Luke Voit to San Diego. Rizzo has faced the Cubs once before, in 2011 — his final game as the Padres' first baseman before being traded to Chicago that offseason.

Rizzo and the Yanks will savor the off-day following the Cubs series because after that, they'll feel the brunt of the lockout's impact on the 2022 schedule for the first time. Postponing the first two series of the season meant moving the Yanks' four-game set at Texas to October and sprinkling in three games at Houston elsewhere on the calendar. The June 30 contest at Minute Maid Park will come amongst a slate of 20 games in 20 days for the Yankees, a challenge they were tasked with enduring in May, as well.

With those kinds of grueling stretches, it's good to have guys such as **DJ LEMAHIEU**, who are capable of providing high-level play at numerous positions. In addition to being one of the game's toughest leadoff hitters, LeMahieu can handle any infield position other than catcher, and handle them well. He made only one error in 55 games at first base in 2021 and just two errors in 83 games at second.

Handling the majority of reps at the keystone corner in '22, however, should be 25-year-old **GLEYBER TORRES**. Forced into action at shortstop for most of the previous two seasons, Torres returns to his natural position this year and, hopefully along with the move, returns to being the offensive force he was in 2018 and '19 when he drove in 167 runs in 267 games and was named an All-Star in each of his first two big-league seasons.

Cracking the Yankees' talented infield lineup is not easy, but two highly regarded young prospects, **OSWALDO CABRERA** and **OSWALD PERAZA**, were added to the team's 40-man roster last November and have been impressive in the minor leagues.

LEMAHIEU's fourth season in pinstripes could be his most important one yet. The versatile leadoff man is capable of filling many different roles for a Yankees team that will lean heavily on him if it is to reach its goal of winning a World Series.

RIZZO

JULY

● HOME ○ AWAY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 7:10 PRIME CLE	2 6:10 YES CLE
3 1:40 YES CLE	4	5 7:05 YES PIT	6 7:05 YES PIT	7 7:10 YES BOS	8 7:10 PRIME BOS	9 7:15 FOX BOS
10 7:05 ESPN BOS	11	12 7:05 YES CIN	13 7:05 YES CIN	14 7:05 YES CIN	15 7:05 PRIME BOS	16 7:15 FOX BOS
17 1:35 YES BOS	18	19	20	21 1:10/6:40 YES HOU^	22 7:05 PRIME BAL	23 7:05 YES BAL
24 1:35 YES BAL	25	26 7:10 YES NYM	27 7:10 ESPN NYM	28 7:05 YES KC	29 7:05 PRIME KC	30 TBA YES KC
31 1:35 YES KC*						

When the Midsummer Classic arrives in his home state of California this summer, JUDGE could very well be an All-Star for the fourth time in his career. The dynamic right fielder is already one of the best players in baseball, yet he continues working to improve on any parts of his game he deems as being weaknesses.

The last time the All-Star Game was held at Dodger Stadium, four Yankees — second baseman Willie Randolph, right fielder Reggie Jackson, third baseman Graig Nettles and shortstop Bucky Dent — were in the starting lineup for the American League, and Yanks left-hander Tommy John was tagged with the loss after giving up homers to Fred Lynn and game MVP Ken Griffey. Will the Yankees' contingent figure as prominently in this year's Midsummer Classic as it did in 1980?

The Bronx Bomber with the best chances of leading the charge into Chavez Ravine might be **AARON JUDGE**, who fans have voted to start the All-Star Game three times already in the popular right fielder's career. The 6-foot-7 slugger put on a show for the L.A. crowd when the Yankees visited the Dodgers in 2019, blasting home runs in all three games. But the multitalented Judge is apt to make a fourth All-Star appearance based on more than just longballs. He set career highs in hits (158) and batting average (.287) in 2021 and says he wants to steal more bases in '22.

Defense is also a huge part of Judge's MVP-caliber game, and with **JOEY GALLO** manning left field, the Yankees boast two corner outfielders that can change the outcome of any given contest with their defensive prowess. Gallo earned back-to-back AL Gold Glove Awards while playing right field for Texas in 2020 and the first half of 2021, and since coming to the Yankees at last year's trade deadline, he has proven that he is just as capable of patrolling Yankee Stadium's left-field expanse. Combined with Aaron Hicks in center, the Yankees' outfield arms will make opposing base coaches pay for being overly aggressive.

Outfield depth comes into play every season, and if any of the Yankees' starters need reinforcement, **ESTEVAN FLORIAL, TIM LOCASTRO** and **EVERSON PEREIRA** are on call and ready for duty.

GALLO

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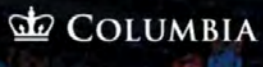

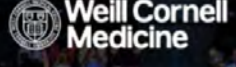

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AUGUST

● HOME ○ AWAY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 7:05 YES SEA	2 7:05 YES SEA	3 1:05 YES SEA	4	5 8:15 PRIME STL	6 7:15 FOX STL
7 2:15 YES STL	8 10:10 YES SEA	9 10:10 YES SEA	10 4:10 YES SEA	11	12 7:10 YES BOS	13 7:15 FOX BOS
14 7:08 ESPN BOS	15 7:05 YES TB	16 7:05 PRIME TB	17 7:05 YES TB	18 7:05 YES TOR	19 7:05 PRIME TOR	20 1:05 YES TOR
21 1:35 YES TOR	22 7:05 YES NYM	23 7:05 PRIME NYM	24	25 9:40 YES OAK	26 9:40 PRIME OAK	27 9:07 YES OAK
28 4:07 YES OAK	29 9:38 YES LAA	30 9:38 YES LAA	31 9:38 YES LAA			

KINER-FALEFA

With the National League having adopted the designated hitter, TAILLON can focus on what he does best when the Yankees play interleague games on the road: pitching. The right-hander has proven to be a commodity in the Yanks' starting rotation, stringing together long stretches of impressive outings.

This is when the Yankees tend to heat up. Last season, they won 21 games in August, including 13 straight to match their longest winning streak in 60 years. A similar hot streak could happen this year, with a trip to sweltering St. Louis — where the Yanks took two out of three during their last trip to Busch Stadium in 2014 — and a seven-game jaunt to sunny California to face the A's and Angels on tap.

Facing AL West opponents 13 times should feel somewhat familiar for **JOSH DONALDSON** and **ISIAH KINER-FALEFA**. The Yankees remade the left side of their infield in 2022, obtaining both players, along with catcher Ben Rortvedt, from Minnesota. Donaldson, the slugging third baseman, broke into the majors with Oakland in 2010, and in his first two full big-league seasons, he was phenomenal for the A's, finishing fourth in AL MVP voting in 2013 and being named to his first of three straight All-Star teams in 2014. The Blue Jays gave up a four-player haul for Donaldson prior to the 2015 season, and he rewarded them by winning the AL MVP Award in his first season in Toronto. Now playing for his fifth team in five years, Donaldson hopes to recapture some of that early career magic in New York.

Kiner-Falefa spent just one day with the Twins after nearly a decade in the Rangers organization. The speedy shortstop played four seasons in the bigs, collecting more RBI against the Mariners and Angels than any other teams. During the Yanks' nine-game homestand in August, he'll get a chance to see how he fares against two of his new division rivals as well as the Mets, a team that Kiner-Falefa — who grew up in Hawaii rooting for the Yankees — had never faced prior to 2022.

St. Louis has been kind to **JAMESON TAILLON**, as far as pitching goes. As a member of the Pirates, he started at Busch three times, going 2-0 with a 1.71 ERA. He also went 0-for-7 with four K's, something the 30-year-old right-hander won't have to worry about now that the National League has adopted the designated hitter.

Taillon and **JORDAN MONTGOMERY** were stalwarts of the Yankees' rotation in 2021, making a combined 59 starts, and will be counted on again this season to shoulder much of the load. **LUIS GIL, DEIVI GARCÍA** and **CLARKE SCHMIDT** are just a few of the promising young pitchers coming up behind them who will be vying for starts as well in '22.

NEW YO
marucci
DONALDSON

SEPT. / OCT.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2 7:10 YES TB	3 6:10 YES TB
4 1:40 YES TB	5 1:05 YES MIN	6 7:05 YES MIN	7 7:05 YES MIN	8 7:05 YES MIN	9 7:05 PRIME TB	10 1:05 YES TB
11 1:35 YES TB	12	13 7:10 YES BOS	14 7:10 YES BOS	15	16 8:10 PRIME MIL	17 7:10 YES MIL
18 2:10 YES MIL	19	20 7:05 YES PIT	21 7:05 YES PIT	22 7:05 YES BOS	23 7:05 PRIME BOS	24 1:05 YES BOS
25 7:05 ESPN BOS	26 7:07 YES TOR	27 7:07 YES TOR	28 7:07 YES TOR	29	30 7:05 PRIME BAL	1 1:05 YES BAL*
2 1:35 YES BAL	3 7:05 YES TEX	4 2:05/8:05 YES TEX^	5 TBA YES TEX			

● HOME ● AWAY

Listings noted with a red border and an asterisk (*) have game times subject to determination by, among others, MLB and its television partners. Any future start-time changes to these games will also be accompanied by a change in the television partner.

Can STANTON replicate the late-season magic he conjured up last September? As the Yankees come down the stretch in 2022, they'll look to their big boppers to power them into the postseason and, hopefully, all the way into the Fall Classic.

In 2019, the Yankees clinched the AL East division crown with their 100th victory of the season, a 9-1 win over the Angels on Sept. 19 at Yankee Stadium. For a similar celebration to take place in the Bronx this season, the Yanks will count on **GIANCARLO STANTON**'s big bat to power them through the final stretch. The slugger was red hot last September, collecting 10 homers and 25 RBI. Three of those homers and 10 of those RBI came in a three-game series against Boston that led to AL Player of the Week honors for Stanton. With games at Fenway Park, where Stanton had compiled a .389 lifetime batting average entering 2022, and Toronto, where his career slugging percentage was a whopping .821, there will be plenty of prime locations for Stanton to try to produce another late-season offensive explosion.

With Stanton and company doing their best to put crooked numbers up on the scoreboard, it will be up to the Yankees' bullpen and their indomitable closer, **AROLDIS CHAPMAN**, to lock down every victory possible. The 34-year-old Cuban Missile remains one of baseball's ninth-inning kingpins, his 306 career saves entering 2022 ranking third among active pitchers. While there's still a sizable gap between Chapman and Mariano Rivera (652), another 30-save season will have Chapman knocking on the door to the top 15 all-time saves list, which features just three other left-handers: John Franco (424), Billy Wagner (422) and Randy Myers (347).

Saves, of course, mean wins for one's team, and the Yankees will need to rack up every victory they can down the stretch. Four AL East teams won 90 or more games in 2021, the first time that had happened since 1978, and all four of those teams figure to be tough again in '22. The Yanks will face every one of their division opponents in September, providing ample opportunity to make up ground or keep pursuers at bay as they chase a sixth consecutive postseason berth.

A trip to the postseason would make **AARON BOONE** the first manager in major league history to pilot his teams to the playoffs in each of his first five seasons. But that's not what motivates the 49-year-old skipper. Since sending the Yankees to the 2003 World Series with his epic Game 7 homer off Boston's Tim Wakefield, Boone has never been back to the Fall Classic as a player or manager. If all goes well, 2022 could be the year that drought finally ends.

CHAPMAN

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MANAGER AND COACHES

17

MANAGER

AARON BOONE

DOB: 3/9/73 • HOMETOWN: LA MESA, CA • SCHOOL: UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (LOS ANGELES, CA)

After leading the Yankees to the AL Wild Card Game in 2021, Aaron Boone became just the second manager in baseball history to reach the postseason in each of the first four years of his managerial career. That accomplishment helped convince Yankees managing general partner Hal Steinbrenner and general manager Brian Cashman to offer the 2019 AL Manager of the Year runner-up a new three-year contract last October. Already a legendary part of Yankees history thanks to his 2003 ALCS–winning homer, Boone hopes to bring back the days when parades up the Canyon of Heroes were a regular part of the fall calendar in New York.

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CARLOS MENDOZA

DOB: 11/27/79 • BIRTHPLACE: BARQUISIMETO, VENEZUELA • HOMETOWN: BARQUISIMETO, VENEZUELA

It is hard to find anyone in pinstripes more respected than Yankees bench coach Carlos Mendoza. For the third season, Mendoza will serve as Aaron Boone's key adviser on the bench in 2022. The 42-year-old has served in several capacities within the organization since 2009. Following a decade-long minor league playing career with the Giants and Yankees (plus three more years playing independent ball), Mendoza began the next phase of his baseball life, coaching in the low minors in 2009 and 2010 before managing at that level in 2011 and 2012. He has since served as the organization's infield coordinator for five years and the lower level field coordinator, quality control and infield coach.

Matt Blake embarks on his third season as Yankees pitching coach after two successful campaigns to begin his pinstriped tenure. In 2021, the Yankees' pitching staff posted a 3.74 ERA, the third-lowest mark in the American League as well as the third lowest of any Yankees staff since 1986. Under Blake's guidance, Yankees pitchers struck out 1,569 opposing batters, fourth best in the majors. Prior to joining the Yankees, the New Hampshire native spent four seasons in the Cleveland organization, serving as assistant director of player development and director of pitching development.

MATT BLAKE

DOB: 5/14/85 • HOMETOWN: CONCORD, NH • SCHOOL: COLLEGE OF THE HOLY CROSS (WORCESTER, MA)

MIKE HARKEY

DOB: 10/25/66 • HOMETOWN: DIAMOND BAR, CA • SCHOOL: CAL STATE UNIVERSITY FULLERTON (FULLERTON, CA)

With 12 years in the Bronx under his belt, Mike Harkey is the Yankees' longest-tenured major league coach. The trusted bullpen coach held the same position from 2008 through 2013, then returned to the team in 2016 after two years as the Diamondbacks' pitching coach. In 2021, Harkey helped Yankees relievers earn the American League's fourth-best ERA and WHIP while holding opposing batters to a .225 batting average, good for fifth in the Junior Circuit. A first-round draft pick of the Chicago Cubs in 1987, Harkey pitched in 131 major league games, posting a 4.49 ERA.

Before joining the Yankees organization in 2019, Desi Druschel made a huge impact on pitchers that took the hill in the state of Iowa. The team's newly named assistant pitching coach began his career at the high school level in 1998 before a two-year stint as an assistant at Indiana University. He then coached at Iowa's Mount St. Clare College and Mount Mercy University for a combined 15 seasons before contributing to the University of Iowa's program, first as director of baseball operations and then as the team's pitching coach.

DESI DRUSCHEL

DOB: 6/19/75 • HOMETOWN: VINTON, IA • SCHOOL: MOUNT MERCY UNIVERSITY (CEDAR RAPIDS, IA)

DILLON LAWSON

DOB: 5/23/85 • HOMETOWN: LOUISVILLE, KY • SCHOOL: TRANSYLVANIA UNIVERSITY (LEXINGTON, KY)

74

HITTING COACH

Yankees hitters will be hearing a new voice in 2022. Dillon Lawson, who served as the organization's minor league hitting coordinator since 2019, takes the reins as the big club's hitting coach this season. During Lawson's three-year tenure on the farm, Yankees minor leaguers excelled with the bats, ranking fourth among all 30 organizations in slugging percentage and OPS during that span, and first in those categories in 2021. Lawson began his coaching career in 2007 with Lindenwood (Mo.) University and has also served as the hitting coach for two Houston Astros Single-A affiliates.

78

ASSISTANT HITTING COACH

Promoted from the Triple-A Scranton/Wilkes-Barre RailRiders, where he served as the team's hitting coach in 2021, Casey Dykes will work with the organization's big-league hitters this season. Under Dykes' direction, the RailRiders ranked second in the Triple-A East in on-base percentage and tied for fourth in batting average. The 32-year-old Tennessee native began his coaching career at Western Kentucky, where he also played for four seasons and earned a bachelor's degree in sport management and a master's in athletic administration.

CASEY DYKES

DOB: 1/27/90 • HOMETOWN: FRANKLIN, TN • SCHOOL: WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY (BOWLING GREEN, KY)

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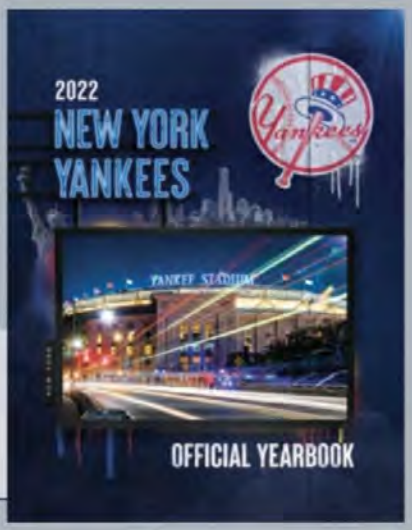

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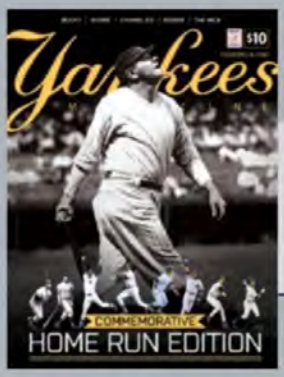

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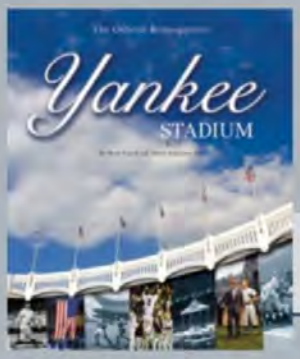

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HENSLEY MEULENS

DOB: 6/23/67 • BIRTHPLACE: WILLEMSTAD, CURAÇAO • HOMETOWN: WILLEMSTAD, CURAÇAO

56

ASSISTANT HITTING COACH

The man known as "Bam-Bam" to Yankees fans during his playing days in New York from 1989 to 1993 is back in the Bronx. Assistant hitting coach Hensley Meulens will lean on a lifetime of experience gained while playing professionally in the United States, Japan, Korea and Mexico, with coaching stops at four different big-league organizations, as well as for Team Netherlands in World Baseball Classic play and the Summer Olympics. Working with hitting coach Dillon Lawson, Meulens looks to help the Yankees' offense improve on the 4.39 runs per game that it put up in 2021.

67

THIRD BASE AND OUTFIELD COACH

From one New York City borough to another, Luis Rojas will remain in the Big Apple in 2022. The Yankees' new third base and outfield coach previously served as the manager of the Mets from 2020 through 2021. Prior to running the show in Queens, Rojas – the son of former MLB manager Felipe Alou – held various positions within the Mets organization, including managerial stints with several of the team's minor league affiliates, over a 16-year span. During his playing career, Rojas spent time in the minors with the Baltimore Orioles, Florida Marlins and Montreal Expos/Washington Nationals.

LUIS ROJAS

DOB: 9/1/81 • BIRTHPLACE: SANTO DOMINGO, D.R. • HOMETOWN: SANTO DOMINGO, D.R.

TRAVIS CHAPMAN

DOB: 6/5/78 • HOMETOWN: JACKSONVILLE, FL • SCHOOL: MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY (STARKVILLE, MS)

Travis Chapman is back in the big leagues. Drafted by the Phillies in 2000, Chapman was called up to the bigs in 2003, but only appeared in one game. Since then, the Florida native has put together an impressive coaching resume. For the last decade, Chapman has been a valuable member of the Yankees organization, managing in the Gulf Coast League in 2014 and serving as a defensive coach for Single-A Charleston and Triple-A Scranton/Wilkes-Barre in recent years. Chapman holds the school record with 71 career doubles at Mississippi State and played in 506 minor league games with four organizations.

In his third season with the Yankees, Tanner Swanson continues to work closely with the team's backstops. Prior to joining the Yankees organization, the catching guru already had a diverse resume. Swanson played four years of college ball, including two at Central Washington University. After hanging up his spikes, Swanson coached at Sultan High School in 2008; served as an assistant coach at Everett Community College, Central Washington University and the University of Washington; and was the head coach at Green River Community College (Wash.). Swanson broke into pro ball with the Twins, spending the 2018 and 2019 seasons as minor league catching coordinator.

TANNER SWANSON

DOB: 8/31/82 • HOMETOWN: ROSLYN, WA • SCHOOL: CENTRAL WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY (ELLENSBURG, WA)

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PITCHERS

ROSTER AS OF MARCH 30

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PITCHER

ALBERT ABREU

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 9/26/95 • BIRTHPLACE: GUAYUBÍN, D.R. • HOMETOWN: GUAYUBÍN, D.R.

In 2021, Albert Abreu showed why he has been considered one of the organization's top 10 prospects since arriving from the Houston Astros in a 2016 trade. The right-hander from the Dominican Republic took the ball for the Yankees in 28 games, striking out 35 batters in 36⅔ innings. Abreu also recorded the first save of his career on Aug. 14, securing the final two outs of the 10th inning against the White Sox at Guaranteed Rate Field. With an upper-90s four-seam fastball and three effective off-speed pitches, the 26-year-old is primed to contribute to the big club in '22.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2021	2	0	5.15	28	0	0	0	1	36.2	27	21	21	8	19	35
CAREER	2	1	5.68	30	0	0	0	1	38	31	25	24	9	21	37

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PITCHER

ZACK BRITTON

BATS: L • THROWS: L • DOB: 12/22/87 • HOMETOWN: SANTA CLARITA, CA • SCHOOL: WEATHERFORD HS (WEATHERFORD, TX)

Tommy John surgery in September 2021 means that Zack Britton is a long shot to see the field for the Yankees in 2022. Even if that portends the end of Britton's time in pinstripes, though, it will still have been an exceptional run of success for the elite left-handed reliever. Britton arrived in New York to take on a set-up role after years as a dominant closer in Baltimore, relying heavily on a bowling-ball sinker that regularly induced softly hit grounders. Although bone chip issues and then the reconstructive elbow surgery hampered the reliever in 2021, he remained a much-respected elder in the Yankees' clubhouse, a role he could continue to perform even as he rehabs in 2022.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2021	0	1	5.89	22	0	0	0	1	18.1	17	14	12	2	14	16
CAREER	35	26	3.12	439	46	0	0	154	640.1	545	254	222	39	258	531

54

PITCHER

AROLDIS CHAPMAN

BATS: L • THROWS: L • DOB: 2/28/88 • BIRTHPLACE: HOLGUÍN, CUBA • HOMETOWN: FRANK PAÍS, CUBA

For 12 seasons, Aroldis Chapman has overwhelmed batters late in games with one of the most dominant fastballs in the sport. When he's at his best, the Cuban Missile can reach triple digits on the radar gun – he topped out at 103 mph in 2021 – and is virtually unhittable. With 306 career saves – good for 27th all-time – and a 2.36 ERA entering 2022, Chapman has produced an overall body of work that places him among the greatest closers of this generation. This season, the 34-year-old left-hander seeks to reach the 30-save plateau for the ninth time in his career.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2021	6	4	3.36	61	0	0	0	30	56.1	36	23	21	9	38	97
CAREER	40	31	2.36	624	0	0	0	306	603.2	342	173	158	38	290	1,002

45

PITCHER

GERRIT COLE

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 9/8/90 • HOMETOWN: SANTA ANA, CA • SCHOOL: UCLA (LOS ANGELES, CA)

In his second season in pinstripes, Gerrit Cole remained one of the sport's elite starting pitchers, pacing the American League with 16 wins in 2021. Cole's consistent dominance was impressive: In 19 of his 30 starts, he logged at least five innings of work while allowing two runs or fewer, including a "one-for-the-ages" three-hit shutout in his return to Houston on July 10. For all that Cole has accomplished over his first nine big-league seasons, the 2021 AL Cy Young Award runner-up and four-time All-Star is fueled by a desire to ultimately win it all, and it's no secret that the Yankees are counting on their ace to secure a championship parade.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2021	16	8	3.23	30	30	2	1	0	181.1	151	69	65	24	41	243
CAREER	117	63	3.20	234	234	6	3	0	1,449.1	1,238	557	515	153	373	1,673

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NESTOR CORTES

BATS: R • THROWS: L • DOB: 12/10/94 • BIRTHPLACE: SURGIDERO DE BATABANO, CUBA • HOMETOWN: HIALEAH, FL

To say that Nestor Cortes exceeded expectations in 2021 would be quite an understatement. The charismatic left-hander came into the season after pitching for three teams over the previous three seasons. The Yankees' 36th-round draft pick in 2013 made 33 appearances for New York in 2019, but struggled during the 2020 season with Seattle. Back in pinstripes for the 2021 season, Cortes established himself as the team's most versatile pitcher, starting 14 games and pitching out of the bullpen in eight. For the Hialeah Kid, a 2.90 ERA marked the lowest of his career by almost three runs, and his 93 innings of work was his most by almost 30 frames.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2021	2	3	2.90	22	14	0	0	0	93	75	32	30	14	25	103
CAREER	7	5	4.66	64	16	0	0	0	172	172	94	89	38	63	183

83

PITCHER

DEIVI GARCÍA

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 5/19/99 • BIRTHPLACE: BONAO, D.R. • HOMETOWN: BONAO, D.R.

Touted for years as one of the Yankees' most promising pitching prospects if only he could harness his control, Deivi García saw his old bugaboo return in 2021. After an impressive big-league debut in 2020, when he issued just six walks in his six regular-season starts and became the youngest pitcher in Yankees history to start a postseason game, García found himself back at Triple-A Scranton/Wilkes-Barre (save for two spot starts), where he allowed 68 walks and 21 home runs in 90⅔ innings. If he can fix the issue and reclaim his command of the strike zone, García still has the potential to be a force in the Yankees' starting rotation.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2021	0	2	6.48	2	2	0	0	0	8.1	8	7	6	1	4	7
CAREER	3	4	5.27	8	8	0	0	0	42.2	43	27	25	7	10	40

55

PITCHER

DOMINGO GERMÁN

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 8/4/92 • BIRTHPLACE: SAN PEDRO DE MACORÍS, D.R. • HOMETOWN: SAN PEDRO DE MACORÍS, D.R.

After missing the entire 60-game 2020 season while serving out the remainder of his 81-game suspension from 2019, Domingo Germán made 18 starts – fourth most on the Yankees – in 2021, allowing three earned runs or fewer in 15 of them. He twirled perhaps the finest game of his career on July 25 at Fenway Park, taking a no-hitter into the eighth inning while striking out 10 Red Sox. Now in his fifth big-league season, the right-hander with the nasty curve – batters whiff at it nearly 20 percent of the time – hopes to take his game to the next level.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2021	4	5	4.58	22	18	0	0	0	98.1	89	52	50	17	27	98
CAREER	24	16	4.54	77	56	0	0	0	341.1	306	182	172	63	108	371

81

PITCHER

LUIS GIL

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 6/3/98 • BIRTHPLACE: AZUA, D.R. • HOMETOWN: AZUA, D.R.

Luis Gil arrived in the Bronx at the perfect time in 2021. With the Yankees battling for a postseason berth, the organization's No. 4 prospect (according to *Baseball America*) tossed six scoreless innings in his big-league debut on Aug. 3. He followed that up with two more scoreless outings, and by the time he allowed his first run on Sept. 8, he had authored the longest career-opening scoreless streak – 18⅔ innings – in franchise history. With a fastball that reaches triple digits and a sinking changeup that sits around 90 mph, the former Twins prospect has his sights set on becoming the Yankees' next king of the Gil.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2021	1	1	3.07	6	6	0	0	0	29.1	20	11	10	4	19	38
CAREER	1	1	3.07	6	6	0	0	0	29.1	20	11	10	4	19	38

89

PITCHER

YOENDRYS GÓMEZ

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 10/15/99 • BIRTHPLACE: NIRGUA, VENEZUELA • HOMETOWN: CHIVACOA, VENEZUELA

Yoendrys Gómez signed with the Yankees as an international free agent in 2016, and in the years since, he has been progressively climbing up the organization's prospect ranks. The wiry, 6-foot-3-inch Venezuela native has a fastball that peaks in the high 90s, which he matches with a curveball that keeps getting better. Pitching in Low-A in 2021, he held opponents to a .163 batting average and maintained a WHIP below 1.00. While Gómez still figures to be a couple years away from the majors, the Yankees remain high on the 22-year-old right-hander.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2021	DID NOT PITCH IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES IN 2021														
CAREER	HAS NOT PITCHED IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES														

57

PITCHER

CHAD GREEN

BATS: L • THROWS: R • DOB: 5/24/91 • HOMETOWN: EFFINGHAM, IL • SCHOOL: UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE (LOUISVILLE, KY)

For more than five years, Chad Green has quietly been a consistent force for the Yankees. He hasn't been selected to an All-Star team – yet – but his overall body of work is on par with the game's best relief pitchers. Whether tasked with opening or closing games, Green has done so with equal success, yet his most efficient work has come between the sixth and eighth innings. In 2021, Green struck out 99 batters in a career-high 83⅔ innings while matching his career-low mark of 1.8 walks per nine innings. If Green continues to bridge the middle-innings gap the way he has, a trip to this year's Midsummer Classic at Dodger Stadium could be in the cards.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2021	10	7	3.12	67	0	0	0	6	83.2	57	32	29	14	17	99
CAREER	32	21	3.17	258	24	0	0	10	368.2	283	142	130	54	91	478

CLAY HOLMES

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 3/27/93 • HOMETOWN: SLOCOMB, AL • SCHOOL: SLOCOMB HS (SLOCOMB, AL)

Pittsburgh's ninth-round pick in 2011, Clay Holmes, was reunited with a couple former Pirates when the Yankees traded for him last July. Like Gerrit Cole and Jameson Taillon, Holmes settled nicely into his new digs, posting a 0.79 WHIP that was second best among all 30 pitchers who appeared for the Yankees in 2021. Holmes made his postseason debut in the 2021 American League Wild Card Game, tossing two innings of one-hit ball after relieving Cole in the third. The sinkerball specialist established himself as one of manager Aaron Boone's most trusted set-up men, a role that the Yanks will need Holmes to reprise if they are to make a deeper October run in 2022.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2021	5	2	1.61	25	0	0	0	0	28	18	8	5	2	4	34
CAREER	10	9	4.81	116	4	0	0	0	147.2	130	89	79	12	88	156

73

PITCHER

MICHAEL KING

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 5/25/95 • HOMETOWN: WARWICK, RI • SCHOOL: BOSTON COLLEGE (CHESTNUT HILL, MA)

Michael King took a big step forward in 2021 toward establishing himself as a mainstay at the highest level of the sport. In his most extensive work in the majors to date, King provided the Yankees with quality innings out of the bullpen – he went 2-1 with a 2.33 ERA in 16 relief appearances – while also starting six games. During two extended stints in the Bronx, King allowed less than one home run per nine innings pitched. The former Boston College star struck out 62 batters while walking 24, earning high praise from manager Aaron Boone and Yankees brass heading into '22.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2021	2	4	3.55	22	6	0	0	0	63.1	57	29	25	6	24	62
CAREER	3	6	4.70	32	10	0	0	0	92	89	53	48	11	35	89

JONATHAN LOÁISIGA

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 11/2/94 • BIRTHPLACE: MANAGUA, NICARAGUA • HOMETOWN: MANAGUA, NICARAGUA

Jonathan Loáisiga has arrived. After making a combined 36 big-league appearances over the previous three seasons, the right-hander emerged as the Yankees' most consistent weapon out of the bullpen in 2021. In 49 of his 57 appearances, Loáisiga didn't surrender a single run, as he finished the season with a 2.17 ERA and five saves. The Nicaragua native's devastating sinker – clocked as high as 101 mph – combined with his nasty offspeed stuff gives Loáisiga one of the most complete repertoires in the game. Based on the rising star's '21 performance, Loáisiga can expect to find himself on the mound during many of his team's highest-leverage situations this season.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2021	9	4	2.17	57	0	0	0	5	70.2	56	19	17	3	16	69
CAREER	16	6	3.36	93	11	0	0	5	150	134	63	56	15	51	161

63

PITCHER

LUCAS LUETGE

BATS: L • THROWS: L • DOB: 3/24/87 • HOMETOWN: BELLVILLE, TX • SCHOOL: RICE UNIVERSITY (HOUSTON, TX)

What rust? When Lucas Luetge climbed the Yankee Stadium mound on April 3, 2021, it marked his first time pitching in the major leagues since an appearance as a member of the Seattle Mariners nearly *six years* earlier. The left-hander allowed a run in his first Yankees outing, then struggled some in his next four appearances as well. But from April 20 through the end of the 2021 campaign, Luetge pitched to a sparkling 2.18 ERA. After signing a new deal to return to New York, Luetge enters 2022 as much more than a feel-good story of perseverance; he stands to play a crucial role for a team with lofty aspirations.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2021	4	2	2.74	57	1	0	0	1	72.1	67	30	22	6	15	78
CAREER	7	7	3.63	168	1	0	0	3	161.1	152	77	65	14	62	152

97

PITCHER

RON MARINACCIO

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 7/1/95 • HOMETOWN: TOMS RIVER, NJ • SCHOOL: UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE (NEWARK, DE)

A New Jersey native who played baseball and basketball at Toms River North High School, Marinaccio was added to the Yankees' 40-man roster this past November, an impressive rise for the reliever who was a 19th-round draft pick out of Delaware in 2017. Like minor leaguers throughout the sport, Marinaccio endured a baseball-less 2020 due to the COVID-19 shutdown, but the time away did the right-hander good: Between stints at Double-A and Triple-A in 2021, Marinaccio covered 66⅓ innings with a 2.04 ERA and 105 strikeouts. If he can reach the majors, Marinaccio will join Todd Frazier and Al Leiter on the list of Yankees to have come out of Toms River.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2021	DID NOT PITCH IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES IN 2021														
CAREER	HAS NOT PITCHED IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES														

80

PITCHER

LUIS MEDINA

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 5/3/99 • BIRTHPLACE: NAGUA, D.R. • HOMETOWN: NAGUA, D.R.

Despite a lost season in 2020 due to the pandemic, Luis Medina took another step forward in his development in 2021. The hard-throwing right-hander lit up the radar guns in 22 appearances (21 starts) for the Yankees' High-A and Double-A affiliates, earning the opportunity to pitch in the 2021 Futures Game at Coors Field, where he threw the game's fastest pitch (100.7 mph). It might not be long before Medina is pitching regularly in big-league ballparks: His 133 strikeouts across the two levels were the fourth most among all Yankees minor leaguers in 2021.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2021	DID NOT PITCH IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES IN 2021														
CAREER	HAS NOT PITCHED IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES														

47

PITCHER

JORDAN MONTGOMERY

BATS: L • THROWS: L • DOB: 12/27/92 • HOMETOWN: SUMTER, SC • SCHOOL: UNIV. OF SOUTH CAROLINA (COLUMBIA, SC)

The stat line below doesn't tell the whole story regarding Jordan Montgomery's 2021 campaign. It's true that he started 30 games and pitched to an impressive 3.83 ERA. But his 6-7 record is deceiving. In 19 of his starts, the 6-foot-6-inch lefty gave his team five or more innings while surrendering three runs or fewer, and he kept opposing teams off the board completely in four separate outings. Montgomery's best performance of the season came on May 21, when he blanked the White Sox for seven innings while striking out 11. With a little more run support in 2022, Montgomery could finally (and deservedly) reach double-digit wins for the first time in his sixth big-league season.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2021	6	7	3.83	30	30	0	0	0	157.1	150	73	67	19	51	162
CAREER	19	17	4.01	77	76	0	0	0	388	370	186	173	51	123	381

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PITCHER

WANDY PERALTA

BATS: L • THROWS: L • DOB: 7/27/91

BIRTHPLACE: SAN FRANCISCO DE MACORÍS, D.R. • HOMETOWN: SAN FRANCISCO DE MACORÍS, D.R.

It didn't take long for the Yankees' fan base to embrace Wandy Peralta after the team acquired him in exchange for outfielder Mike Tauchman in April 2021. Arriving in the Bronx from San Francisco, the left-handed reliever helped steady the Yankees' bullpen, pitching to a 2.95 ERA in 46 appearances. He also saved three games, including one in Atlanta in which he entered with the bases loaded and with his team clinging to a one-run lead. The Dominican Republic native broke into the majors with Cincinnati in 2016, and he has made steady progress ever since.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2021	3	3	2.95	46	1	0	0	3	42.2	38	19	14	5	18	35
CAREER	12	12	4.40	266	1	0	0	5	235.1	233	129	115	31	110	193

88

PITCHER

STEPHEN RIDINGS

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 8/14/95 • HOMETOWN: COMMACK, NY • SCHOOL: HAVERFORD COLLEGE (HAVERFORD, PA)

It takes a whole lot more than 26 players to win a championship, a lesson that every manager shares while addressing overstuffed clubhouses early in spring training. For Stephen Ridings, the idea of stepping up to fill a role is nothing new. Not long before making his major league debut on Aug. 3, 2021, Ridings served as a substitute teacher in Florida during the COVID-19 minor league shutdown from October 2020 through early March 2021. Ridings' wild ride extends into 2022, but the Long Island native is much more than an unheralded reliever with a fun backstory: After the 2021 season, *Baseball America* called his fastball the best among Yankees minor leaguers.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2021	0	0	1.80	5	0	0	0	0	5	4	2	1	0	2	7
CAREER	0	0	1.80	5	0	0	0	0	5	4	2	1	0	2	7

JOELY RODRÍGUEZ

BATS: L • THROWS: L • DOB: 11/14/91 • BIRTHPLACE: SANTO DOMINGO, D.R. • HOMETOWN: SANTO DOMINGO, D.R.

When the Yankees announced the trade that brought Joey Gallo to the Bronx in July of 2021, the other player headed to New York in the deal was something of an afterthought. After 21 exceptional appearances for Aaron Boone's club, Joely Rodríguez finished the year as anything but. The southpaw from the Dominican Republic – whose big-league career seemed uncertain after posting a 6.33 ERA in 26 relief appearances with the 2017 Phillies followed by two seasons with the Chunichi Dragons of Japan's Nippon Professional Baseball – pitched to a 2.84 ERA in pinstripes and projects to be an integral part of the Yankees' 'pen in 2022.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2021	1	0	2.84	21	0	0	0	0	19	21	8	6	1	6	17
CAREER	3	5	4.61	102	0	0	0	1	95.2	106	59	49	8	42	89

CLARKE SCHMIDT

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 2/20/96 • BIRTHPLACE: ACWORTH, GA • SCHOOL: UNIV. OF SOUTH CAROLINA (COLUMBIA, SC)

The Yankees had faith in Clarke Schmidt's potential even before they selected him out of the University of South Carolina with the 16th overall pick in the 2017 MLB Draft. At the time of his selection, the right-hander was recovering from Tommy John surgery, which he underwent after pitching just nine games for the Gamecocks in 2017. Knowing that he would need to endure months of rehab before even throwing a pitch for the organization, the Yankees have watched Schmidt ascend the prospect ranks and hope to see him stick at the top level this year after being held back by injuries in 2021.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2021	0	0	5.68	2	1	0	0	0	6.1	11	8	4	1	5	6
CAREER	0	1	6.39	5	2	0	0	0	12.2	18	13	9	1	10	13

JP SEARS

BATS: R • THROWS: L • DOB: 2/19/96 • HOMETOWN: SUMTER, SC • SCHOOL: THE CITADEL (CHARLESTON, SC)

The Yankees' pitching staff features its share of arms with South Carolina ties, and JP Sears hopes to join the party after being added to the team's 40-man roster in November 2021. Hailing from the same hometown as Jordan Montgomery, Sears should feel right at home among the team's pitchers. More than just a sense of familiarity, though, Sears will be able to lean on a deceptive delivery that helped him ascend as high as Triple-A in 2021. The 5-foot-11 left-hander came to the Yankees in a little-noticed 2017 trade for pitcher Nick Rumbelow, but after going 7-0 in 10 starts at Triple-A last season, Sears is knocking on the door to the bigs.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2021	DID NOT PITCH IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES IN 2021														
CAREER	HAS NOT PITCHED IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES														

40

PITCHER

LUIS SEVERINO

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 2/20/94 • BIRTHPLACE: SABANA DE LA MAR, D.R. • HOMETOWN: SABANA DE LA MAR, D.R.

In one of the more uplifting moments of last season, Luis Severino returned to the mound at Yankee Stadium following a nearly two-year hiatus. After undergoing Tommy John surgery in February 2020, Severino persevered through multiple setbacks before finally making his return on Sept. 21. Pitching in relief against Texas, the right-hander tossed two scoreless innings in his season debut, and he followed that performance with three more scoreless appearances. With restored confidence, the 28-year-old enters the 2022 season with a 43-26 record and hopes of regaining the form that earned him back-to-back All-Star selections in 2017 and 2018.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2021	1	0	0.00	4	0	0	0	0	6	2	0	0	0	1	8
CAREER	43	26	3.43	103	88	1	1	0	536	462	220	204	60	151	597

JAMESON TAILLON

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 11/18/91 • HOMETOWN: THE WOODLANDS, TX • SCHOOL: THE WOODLANDS HS (THE WOODLANDS, TX)

Jameson Taillon showed he was healthy and could pitch effectively in the Big Apple during his first season in pinstripes. Following a roller-coaster tenure with the Pittsburgh Pirates that included two Tommy John procedures, Taillon came to the Bronx ready to prove himself. An up-and-down first half in 2021 gave way to a streak of seven starts in which he allowed two earned runs or fewer. The AL Pitcher of the Month for July notched a season-high 10 K's against the Orioles in early August, and he helped the Yankees win two crucial games in the final week of the season despite pitching on an injured ankle that required offseason surgery.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2021	8	6	4.30	29	29	0	0	0	144.1	130	73	69	24	44	140
CAREER	37	30	3.82	111	111	3	1	0	610.1	594	275	259	72	161	559

Evan Trost has
a love for the outdoors
a fascination with model planes
two beautiful children
and Tourette Syndrome.

Evan Trost, M.D.
Family Physician, Private Practice Family Medicine

Dr. Evan Trost is a dedicated and committed young M.D. specializing in wellness and preventative medicine at his private practice in Scottsdale, Arizona. Patients – especially kids – spark to Evan's openness and compassionate bedside manner. Evan also happens to be one of the hundreds of thousands of Americans to have been born with Tourette Syndrome – an often misdiagnosed and misunderstood neurological disorder that's a lot more common than you think. You may know or have seen someone with TS symptoms – they sometimes make sudden, often strange, physical movements or vocal sounds that they just can't help. People with TS are not psychologically impaired, less intelligent, obstinate or purposefully disruptive. And contrary to what you may have heard, fully 85 to 90 percent are *not* prone to using inappropriate language. Research continues to explore the causes of Tourette Syndrome, and hopefully, the day will come soon when we can find better treatments and the cure. But until then, if you come across someone who has TS, please remember that, like Dr. Evan Trost, that person has a whole lot more.

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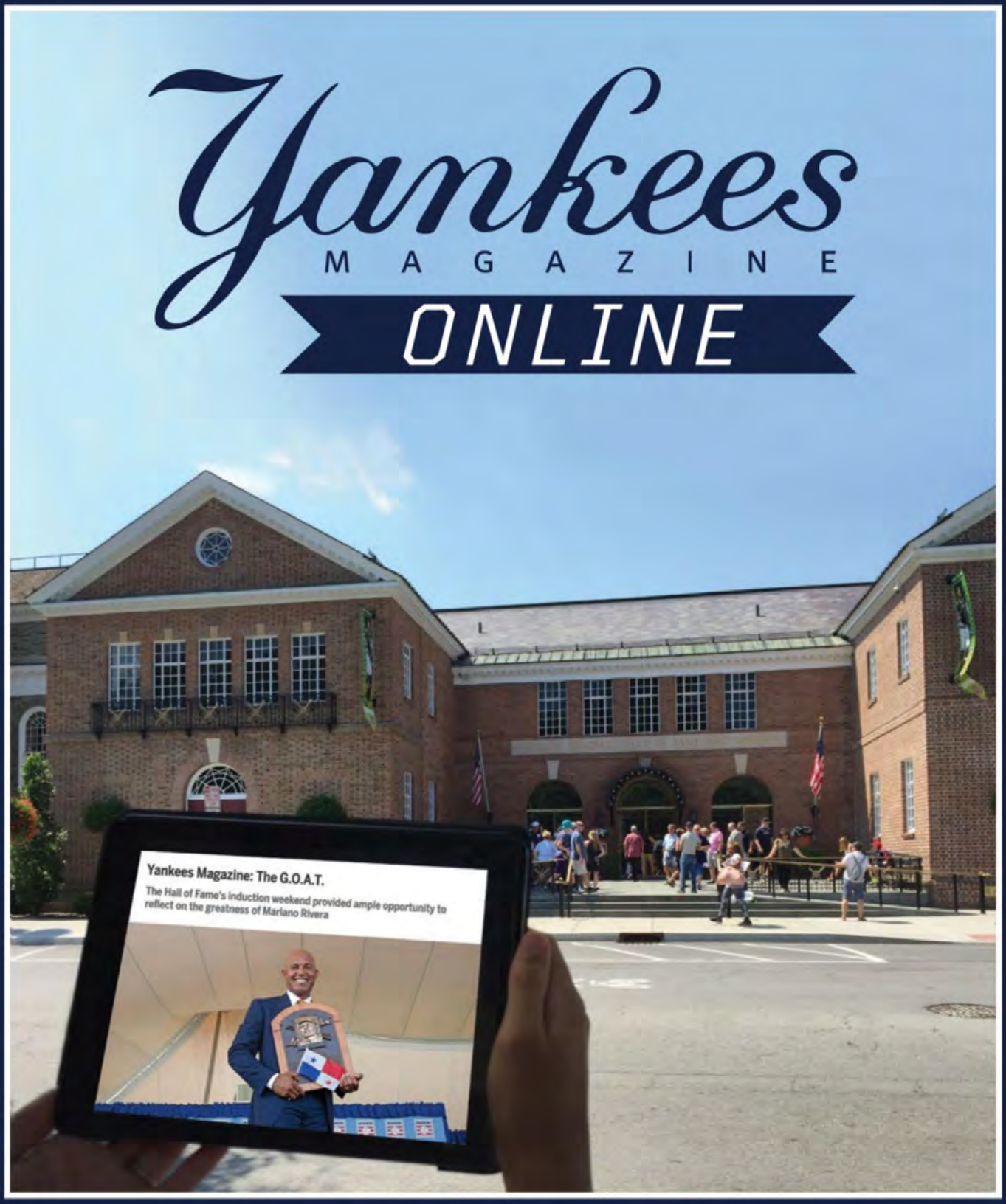

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CATCHER

KYLE HIGASHIOKA

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 4/20/90 • HOMETOWN: HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA • SCHOOL: EDISON HS (HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA)

By the time Kyle Higashioka reached the big leagues just 10 days shy of his 27th birthday, he was able to field his position as well as some of the league's most seasoned backstops. Since his 2017 debut, "Higgy" has earned the trust and respect of the Yankees' pitching staff for the way he calls games and blocks pitches. In 2021, the California native started 58 games behind the dish and saw time at catcher in a total of 66 regular-season contests. And between the 2020 and 2021 postseasons, Higashioka started six games, batting .250 with one home run.

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2021	67	193	20	35	10	0	10	29	0	17	59	.181	.246	.389
CAREER	139	387	43	71	18	0	20	56	0	25	118	.183	.234	.385

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CATCHER

BEN RORTVEDT

BATS: L • THROWS: R • DOB: 9/25/97 • HOMETOWN: MADISON, WI • SCHOOL: VERONA AREA HS (VERONA, WI)

While Wisconsin native Ben Rortvedt enters 2022 with just three homers on his resume (in 39 big-league games), one look at his physique gives reason to believe there's more where that came from. After the March trade with the Twins that netted Rortvedt, Josh Donaldson and Isiah Kiner-Falefa, Yankees fans were gobsmacked at photos of the catcher's muscular build, which looks like something out of a World's Strongest Man competition. The 24-year-old has a history of working with Yankees catching coach Tanner Swanson from their time together in Minnesota, and beyond the power at the plate, he offers a strong arm and good pitch-framing skills behind the dish.

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2021	39	89	8	15	1	0	3	7	0	6	29	.169	.229	.281
CAREER	39	89	8	15	1	0	3	7	0	6	29	.169	.229	.281

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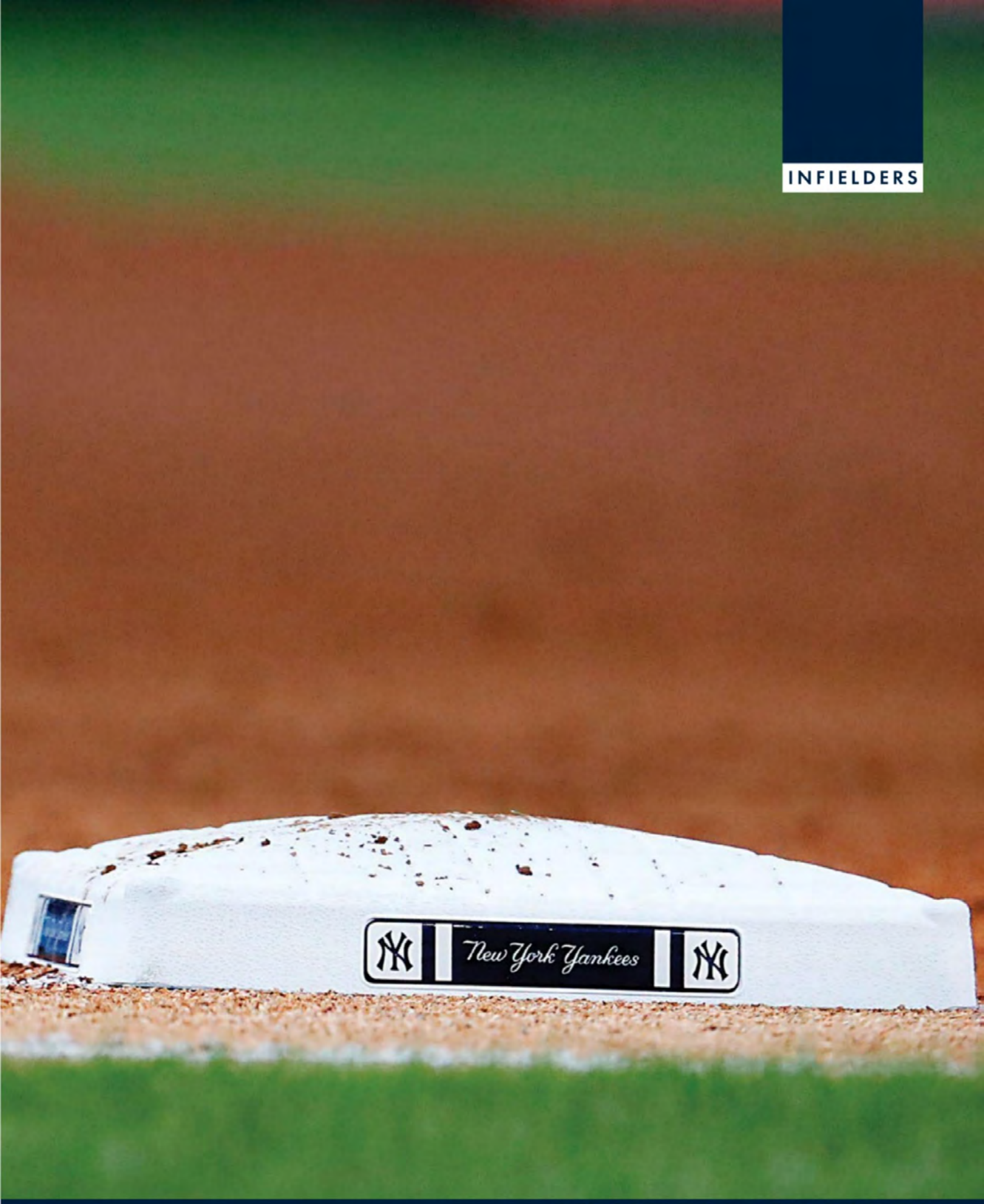
New York Yankees

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INFIELD

OSWALDO CABRERA

BATS: S • THROWS: R • DOB: 3/1/99 • BIRTHPLACE: GUARENAS, VENEZUELA • HOMETOWN: GUARENAS, VENEZUELA

A young Venezuelan middle infielder with loads of pop looking to make headlines on the Yankee Stadium diamond? Sounds like Gleyber Torres, but if all goes according to plan, Torres could get some mirror-image-like company this year, with Oswaldo Cabrera having earned a 40-man spot. After mashing 29 homers across two minor league levels in 2021 – a season that also saw him named the Double-A Northeast league's most valuable player – Cabrera could reach the bigs sooner rather than later. Part of a 2015 international signing class that also included Deivi García and Estevan Florial, among others, the 23-year-old Cabrera still has plenty of time to further hone his game.

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2021	DID NOT PLAY IN THE MAJORS IN 2021													
CAREER	HAS NOT PLAYED IN THE MAJORS													

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INFIELD

JOSH DONALDSON

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 12/8/85 • BIRTHPLACE: PENSACOLA, FL • SCHOOL: AUBURN UNIVERSITY (AUBURN, AL)

Every offseason, baseball fans and reporters spend so much time gaming out potential moves, only to see a blockbuster come out of absolutely nowhere. For Yankees fans, the shock of acquiring Josh Donaldson quickly gave way to a sense of wonder as to what new magic the self-proclaimed "Bringer of Rain" can add to an already stacked lineup. Donaldson's powerful right-handed bat – he has hit more than 25 homers in six seasons – will fit right in among the sluggers manager Aaron Boone trots out every night, and the 36-year-old former MVP still more than holds his own at third base.

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2021	135	457	73	113	26	0	26	72	0	74	114	.247	.352	.475
CAREER	1,201	4,379	739	1,179	254	12	251	728	38	649	1,023	.269	.367	.505

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ISIAH KINER-FALEFA

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 3/23/95 • BIRTHPLACE: HONOLULU, HI • SCHOOL: MID-PACIFIC INSTITUTE (HONOLULU, HI)

There's something truly exciting about watching a brilliant defender at work, and Yankees fans can look forward to being blown away by the myriad feats of wonder their new shortstop is capable of performing on the field. Isiah Kiner-Falefa racked up 172 hits for Texas last season – including an American League-best 136 singles – but it's his sterling defensive work for which the 2020 Gold Glove winner is best known. In 2021, Kiner-Falefa posted an impressive defensive runs saved score of 10 and recorded 436 assists – 31 more than any other player in the majors.

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2021	158	635	74	172	25	3	8	53	20	28	90	.271	.312	.357
CAREER	392	1,404	168	372	59	9	16	118	38	84	233	.265	.316	.354

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INFIELD

DJ LeMAHIEU

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 7/13/88 • HOMETOWN: BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MI • SCHOOL: LSU (BATON ROUGE, LA)

DJ LeMahieu may not have put up the eye-popping statistics in 2021 that fans and teammates have come to expect from "The Machine," but he instead impressed those around him with his grit and toughness. Playing at less than 100 percent health for much of the campaign, LeMahieu still started 147 games, batting .268 and providing the Yankees with solid defense at three infield positions. He underwent surgery for a sports hernia last October, and now the three-time All Star and two-time batting champion has his sights set on returning to the offensive excellence he demonstrated in his first two seasons with the Yankees, when he batted a combined .336 – tops in baseball during that time.

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2021	150	597	84	160	24	1	10	57	4	73	94	.268	.349	.362
CAREER	1,300	4,839	735	1,454	230	36	95	535	87	415	782	.300	.356	.422

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INFIELD

OSWALD PERAZA

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 6/15/00 • BIRTHPLACE: CABUDARE, VENEZUELA • HOMETOWN: BARQUISIMETO, VENEZUELA

For two decades, fans coming to Yankee Stadium cheered for an instinctual, homegrown shortstop who hit for high average and stole bases at every opportunity. Oswald Peraza hopes to keep that tradition alive. In 2021, as Derek Jeter prepared for his speech in Cooperstown, the exciting young Venezuelan rocketed up the prospect lists, leading all Yankees minor leaguers in hits (138), batting average (.297; min. 300 at-bats) and steals (38). After being named High-A East Player of the Month in May, Peraza was promoted from Hudson Valley to Somerset, where he batted .294 in 79 games, then finished the season at Triple-A, collecting eight hits in as many games.

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2021	DID NOT PLAY IN THE MAJORS IN 2021													
CAREER	HAS NOT PLAYED IN THE MAJORS													

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INFIELD

ANTHONY RIZZO

BATS: L • THROWS: L • DOB: 8/8/89 • BIRTHPLACE: PARKLAND, FL • SCHOOL: MARJORY STONEMAN DOUGLAS HS (PARKLAND, FL)

Meet the new first baseman, same as the old first baseman. When Anthony Rizzo went from the Cubs to the Yankees at the 2021 trade deadline, he brought a much-needed left-handed bat, plus outstanding glovework to the Bronx. The Florida native, who grew up a Yankees fan, re-signed with the team as a free agent in March, looking to build on a successful debut in which he became the first player in franchise history with an RBI in each of his first six games. Not counting the shortened 2020 season, Rizzo has hit at least 20 homers every year since 2013, and with the attractive right-field dimensions at Yankee Stadium, there's every reason to expect more of the same.

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2021	141	496	73	123	23	3	22	61	6	52	87	.248	.344	.440
CAREER	1,406	5,113	762	1,372	291	21	251	814	66	661	945	.268	.369	.481

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INFIELD

GLEYBER TORRES

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 12/13/96 • BIRTHPLACE: CARACAS, VENEZUELA • HOMETOWN: CARACAS, VENEZUELA

Gleyber Torres' big-league career got off to a torrid start, when a .271 average and 24 home runs yielded a third-place finish in the 2018 AL Rookie of the Year race. The Venezuela native improved dramatically in 2019, crushing a team-high 38 longballs and driving in 90 runs. Torres struggled to match that type of production during the abbreviated 2020 season and the first part of 2021, but he eventually found his groove, batting .280 over the season's final month. With the two-time All-Star second baseman expected to be back at the keystone corner after playing shortstop for almost two seasons, the Yankees and their fans hope to see the 25-year-old flourish on both sides of the ball in 2022.

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2021	127	459	50	119	22	0	9	51	14	50	104	.259	.331	.366
CAREER	436	1,572	217	421	72	1	74	234	26	162	383	.268	.338	.456

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MIGUEL ANDÚJAR

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 3/2/95 • BIRTHPLACE: SAN CRISTÓBAL, D.R. • HOMETOWN: SAN CRISTÓBAL, D.R.

Now 27 years old, Miguel Andújar's potential still thrills Yankees fans and executives who remember the way his helicopter swing and fearless playing style made him a popular choice for AL Rookie of the Year votes in 2018 (he finished second, behind Shohei Ohtani). Since that year, the Dominican Republic native has battled injury woes that kept him off the field for numerous extended stretches, but with a recent focus on adding outfield reps, Andújar expects to be available in any capacity that manager Aaron Boone might need him this season.

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2021	45	154	19	39	2	0	6	12	0	7	28	.253	.284	.383
CAREER	232	843	108	234	53	3	34	114	3	37	145	.278	.309	.469

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OUTFIELD

ESTEVAN FLORIAL

BATS: L • THROWS: R • DOB: 11/25/97 • BIRTHPLACE: BARAHONA, D.R. • HOMETOWN: SANTO DOMINGO ESTE, D.R.

After appearing in just two games for the Yankees – one in 2020, and another on May 27, 2021 – Estevan Florial was called up to the big-league club last July and given an opportunity to show what he is capable of accomplishing. On July 20, he walloped a down-and-in slider into the right-field stands at Yankee Stadium for his first career home run. Four days later, his double to lead off the eighth inning kickstarted a four-run rally in a 4-3 win at Fenway Park. In limited major league service time, the long-anticipated prospect has shown that he will fight for a role on the active roster.

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2021	11	20	3	6	2	0	1	2	1	5	6	.300	.440	.550
CAREER	12	23	3	7	2	0	1	2	1	5	8	.304	.429	.522

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OUTFIELD

JOEY GALLO

BATS: L • THROWS: R • DOB: 11/19/93 • HOMETOWN: LAS VEGAS, NV • SCHOOL: BISHOP GORMAN HS (LAS VEGAS, NV)

A mutually beneficial match, the July 2021 trade that brought Joey Gallo to New York allowed the veteran outfielder to play for the team he rooted for as a child while providing the Yankees' lineup with some much-needed left-handed pop. Deceptively athletic in the outfield, Gallo brings plus defense and smarts every time he takes the field. His offensive profile is basically the textbook definition of three true outcomes: In addition to his 38 homers from the left side between the Rangers and Yankees in 2021, he also led the American League in *both* walks and strikeouts.

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2021	153	498	90	99	13	1	38	77	6	111	213	.199	.351	.458
CAREER	626	2014	352	415	81	7	158	339	26	361	885	.206	.333	.489

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OUTFIELD

AARON HICKS

BATS: S • THROWS: R • DOB: 10/2/89 • HOMETOWN: LONG BEACH, CA • SCHOOL: WOODROW WILSON HS (LONG BEACH, CA)

During his tenure in pinstripes, Aaron Hicks has provided his fair share of highlight-reel plays in center field. Whether chasing down a ball in the gap or throwing out an opposing runner on the base paths with his near-incomprehensible cannon, Hicks has shown a defensive ability that is unmatched by many of his peers. Although Hicks has missed significant time due to injuries – most recently in 2021, when he had wrist surgery in May and was limited to just 32 games – the Yankees are optimistic that the talented switch-hitter will be back at full strength in 2022.

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2021	32	108	13	21	3	0	4	14	0	14	30	.194	.294	.333
CAREER	740	2,425	365	565	102	12	92	311	55	351	592	.233	.330	.399

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OUTFIELD

AARON JUDGE

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 4/26/92 • HOMETOWN: LINDEN, CA • SCHOOL: FRESNO STATE (FRESNO, CA)

In 2021, Aaron Judge put together one of his most complete seasons in what is becoming a storied career. The right fielder from Northern California did it all in his sixth big-league campaign, leading the Yankees with 39 home runs and 98 RBI to go with a career-high .287 batting average. Of Judge's 39 homers, 13 gave the Yankees a lead, and four others brought the team even. Adding to his lore, Judge hit two longballs in the inaugural MLB at Field of Dreams game in Iowa and nine over the final three weeks of the regular season. He looks to build upon a 2021 season that saw him win his second Silver Slugger Award and earn a spot on the All-MLB First Team.

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2021	148	550	89	158	24	0	39	98	6	75	158	.287	.373	.544
CAREER	572	2,068	402	571	93	4	158	366	24	361	733	.276	.386	.554

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TIM LOCASTRO

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 7/14/92 • HOMETOWN: AUBURN, NY • SCHOOL: ITHACA COLLEGE (ITHACA, NY)

Although he grew up in the Finger Lakes region of New York, Tim Locastro traveled a circuitous path to Yankee Stadium. Drafted by the Blue Jays out of Ithaca College in 2013, the outfielder has been traded four times in his young career, appearing in major league games with the Dodgers, Diamondbacks and Yankees. Capable of playing all three outfield positions, Locastro is fully recovered from the knee injury he suffered last July and could be a valuable asset should any of the Yanks' starting outfielders need a respite in 2022.

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2021	64	139	15	25	4	0	2	7	5	7	33	.180	.263	.252
CAREER	209	432	74	100	21	3	5	31	31	31	96	.231	.333	.329

93

OUTFIELD

EVERSON PEREIRA

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 4/10/01 • BIRTHPLACE: CABUDARE, VENEZUELA • HOMETOWN: BARQUISIMETO, VENEZUELA

When the Yankees signed Everson Pereira out of Venezuela in 2017, the outfielder was considered the fourth-best prospect in that year's class of international signings. The road from headline-grabbing contract to the major leagues takes a good amount of time, yet Pereira, who was still just 20 years old as the calendar flipped to 2022, has used the past few seasons to build up his body and hone his eye at the plate. Pereira's output improved as he climbed the organizational ladder in 2021, culminating with his being ranked No. 13 in the Yankees' system by MLB Pipeline after a season that saw him hit 14 bombs in just 27 games at High-A, including a three-homer outing on Sept. 5.

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2021	DID NOT PLAY IN THE MAJORS IN 2021													
CAREER	HAS NOT PLAYED IN THE MAJORS													

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OUTFIELD

GIANCARLO STANTON

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 11/8/89 • HOMETOWN: SUNLAND-TUJUNGA, CA • SCHOOL: NOTRE DAME HS (SHERMAN OAKS, CA)

There aren't many moments that compare to when Giancarlo Stanton launches a baseball into the sky. In 2021, the Yankees star provided the fan base with 35 of those thrilling experiences, including some that were downright unforgettable. The clutch-hitting slugger hit a go-ahead longball in the ninth inning of the inaugural MLB at Field of Dreams game in Iowa, and he put on an absolute show at Fenway Park in September, blasting three home runs in a three-game sweep of the Red Sox. The 32-year-old – who made 26 starts in the outfield in '21 – heads into his 13th big-league season with one National League MVP Award, 347 career home runs and every intention of finally realizing his dream of winning the World Series.

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG
2021	139	510	64	139	19	0	35	97	0	63	157	.273	.354	.516
CAREER	1,324	4,839	762	1,299	265	11	347	893	42	647	1,559	.268	.358	.543

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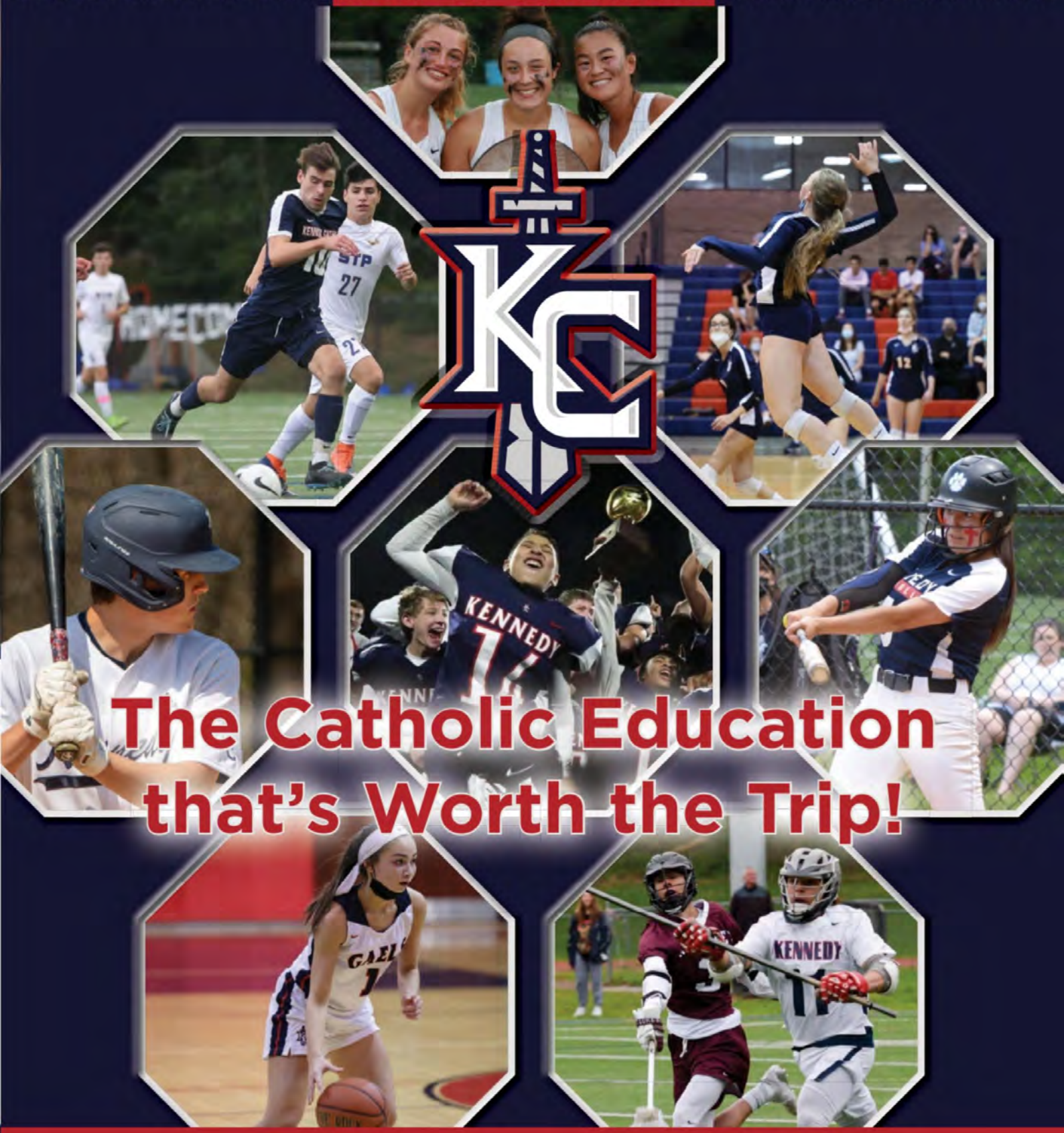

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'HE WILL BE MISSED'

Teammates and coaches mourn passing of ***GERALD WILLIAMS***

By Rich Thomaselli

He had a love for the game of baseball that was unparalleled. He had speed to burn, a defensive prowess that allowed him to cover copious amounts of territory in old Yankee Stadium's deepest canyons, and an arm that gave most opponents pause before thinking about taking an extra base.

And he had a flair for the dramatic, whether at bat or in the field. (Just ask Dwight Gooden.)

But more than that, Gerald Williams was an exceptional teammate who drew the admiration and respect of fellow players with several franchises over a 14-year major league career — half of it spent with the New York Yankees.

Williams died on Feb. 8, 2022, after a battle with cancer. He was 55 years old.

The announcement of Williams' death was made by his dear friend, Hall of Famer Derek Jeter, who shared the sad news via the Twitter account of Jeter's website, The Players' Tribune.

"Gerald Williams passed away this morning after a battle with cancer. To my teammate and one of my best friends in the world, rest in peace, my brother. My thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Liliana, and their whole family."

Williams and Jeter had a close bond. The two played together in the minor leagues even though Williams was eight years older. Their friendship was forged by Williams taking a young Jeter under his wing and literally protecting the club's future after Jeter was selected as the Yankees' No. 1 pick in the 1992 MLB Draft.

Just six months prior to Williams' passing, during a Yankees game against the Marlins in Miami, where Jeter was still an executive at the time, longtime YES announcer Michael Kay relayed the story of how Williams and Jeter bonded.

"The relationship was cemented really early in the low level of the minor leagues where there was a player there that was picking on Jeter and really bothering him," Kay said during the broadcast. "Finally, Gerald Williams said, 'OK, enough. If you do it again, you're going to have to go through me.' They have been the closest friends ever since."

Nicknamed "Ice," Williams was drafted in the 14th round out of Grambling State University in 1987. He was called up to make his major league debut with the Yankees in 1992 and played four and a half years in his first stint

with the team. The outfielder was one of the key contributors to the club's resurgence from the doldrums to leading the American League East Division in August of 1994 when the strike canceled the rest of the season, followed by the club's first postseason berth in 14 years in 1995.

"Gerald willed himself to become a good player," Buck Showalter, Williams' first manager in the minors and in the majors, told the *New York Post* after his death. "He could really do some things. He could run, throw, defend, really hit lefty pitching, and if you needed him to start for a while, he could do that. He was a key guy for us as we got better there in the '90s. Oh, and a great teammate. If Gerald liked you, he was all in."

Williams, one of just three Yankees players in history to record a six-hit game, made what is arguably his most famous and memorable play during a night game at the Stadium in May of 1996. Starting in center field in place of Bernie Williams — another close friend who was nursing a sore calf that night — Ice made a lunging, twisting one-handed grab at the warning track off a screaming ball hit by Seattle's Alex Rodriguez. He then wheeled around and fired a relay to Jeter, who threw to first and doubled up Darren Bragg, who had walked to open the game.

And those were the first two outs of Gooden's no-hitter.

In a statement released by the Yankees, Bernie Williams wrote: "I am deeply saddened about the passing of my good friend Gerald Williams. I remember our time in the minors when we were roommates ... through thick and thin, we had each other's backs. We used to talk and dream about how it would be like to play in the big leagues. He had more power, he was faster, and definitely had an exponentially better throwing arm than me, so we used to joke around about him being called up by the Yankees first. We played side-by-side in the big leagues for a little while, so our dream did come true. He was a stand-up individual with great character and integrity throughout his whole life. Even though our lives went in separate ways, I always considered him a true friend and a mentor. I will miss him a lot."

Gerald Williams was traded to the Milwaukee Brewers along with Bob Wickman for Graeme Lloyd, Pat Listach and Ricky Bones in August of 1996. He also played for the Atlanta Braves, Tampa Bay Devil Rays, the Yankees again from 2001 to '02, the Marlins, and the New York Mets for two years before retiring in 2005. Williams appeared in more than 1,000 major league games and won a World Series ring with the Marlins in '03.

"The Yankees are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Gerald Williams, who grew up in our minor league system and spent parts of seven seasons with us on the major league level," read a statement the team released on the morning of Williams' death. "Gerald had an infectious smile and was a beloved member of the clubhouse while in pinstripes. The Yankees extend their heartfelt condolences to Gerald's family and friends. He will be missed."

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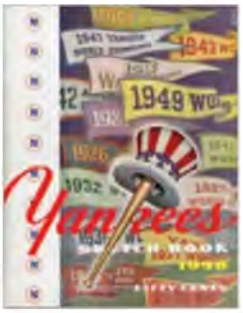
PERENNIAL ENJOYMENT

Part artwork, part keepsake, the official Yearbook has linked Yankees fans to their team and one another for more than 70 years



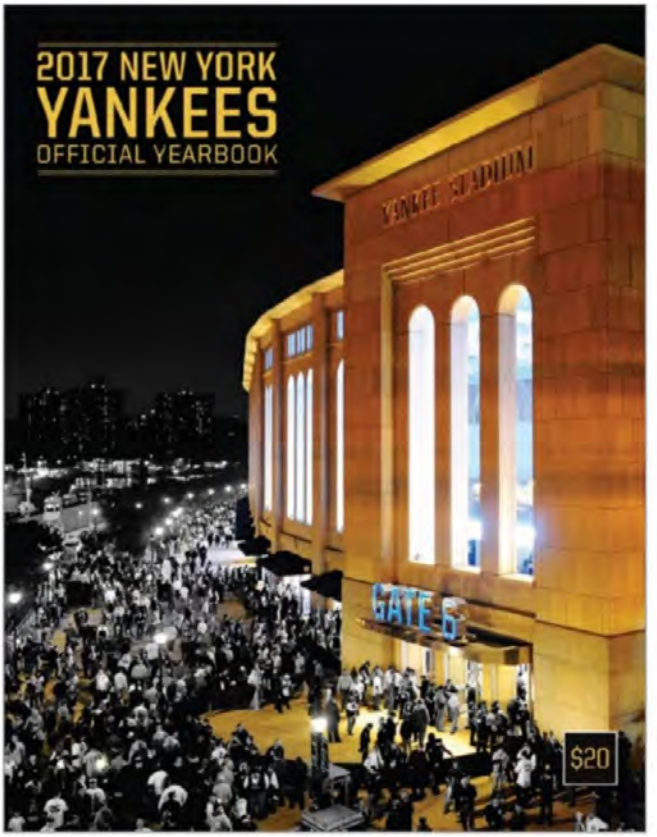
One of the many pleasures of baseball is its ability to connect us with our past. Players may come and go, ballparks get torn down and rebuilt, but the traditions and competitive spirit that have served as the bedrock of this wonderful game remain constant for each new generation of fans.

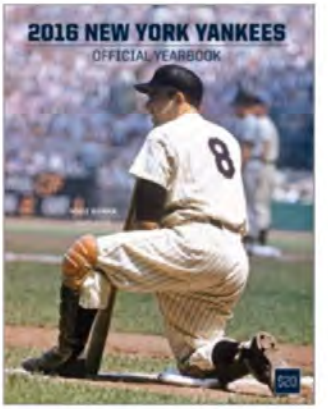
Walking in to Yankee Stadium today is, in many ways, a similar experience to entering The House That Ruth Built that long stood across the street. Whether the day's scheduled starter was Red Ruffing or Gerrit Cole, the smells from the cart vendors along River Avenue, the excitement that runs up your spine when you step inside and catch that first glimpse of the emerald green field, the roar of the crowd when a Yankee does something big — those sensations haven't changed much at all since 1923. You can't get a hot dog for a nickel anymore, but even in this ever-changing world in which we're living, the emotions that come with seeing the pinstripes for the first time can still make you give in and cry.

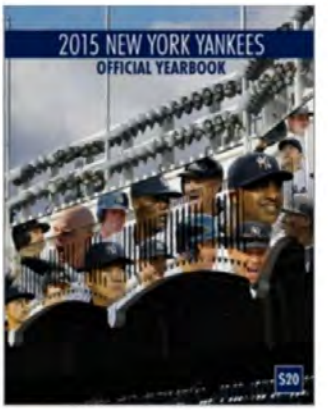
In the Bronx, the passage of time is marked by chasing championships and celebrating history. And there might not be a better emblem of this dual pursuit than the team's official Yearbook. Now in its eighth decade of existence, the annual publication has been a beacon of what the team stands for, reflecting the Yankees' pride and might. The covers beam forth an artistic representation not only of the team, but of the eras in which they were produced; the design choices and font styles often reflecting the look and feel of the times.

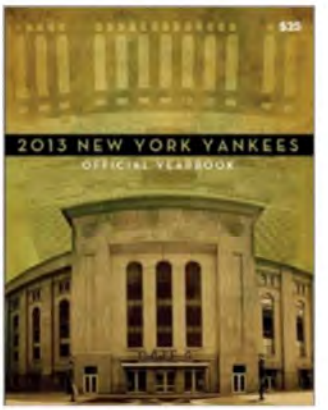
On the pages ahead, we invite you to revisit the past via the team's official Yearbook covers — one from each year stretching all the way back to the first ever published in 1950, although some years did have multiple versions — and see how they call to memory the teams of yesteryear. It's not hard to imagine the feeling of nostalgia that this year's edition will bring someday to the young fan who goes home with a souvenir Yearbook from Yankee Stadium. It's a cycle that keeps on going and keeps on giving us yet another reason to love baseball.

YANKEES YEARBOOKS









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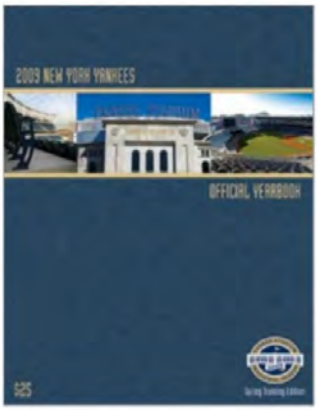
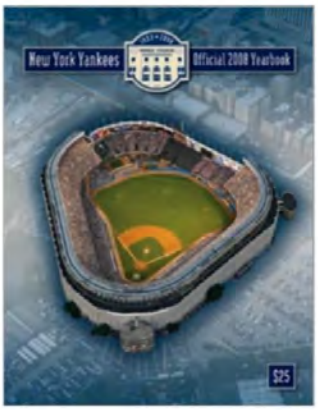
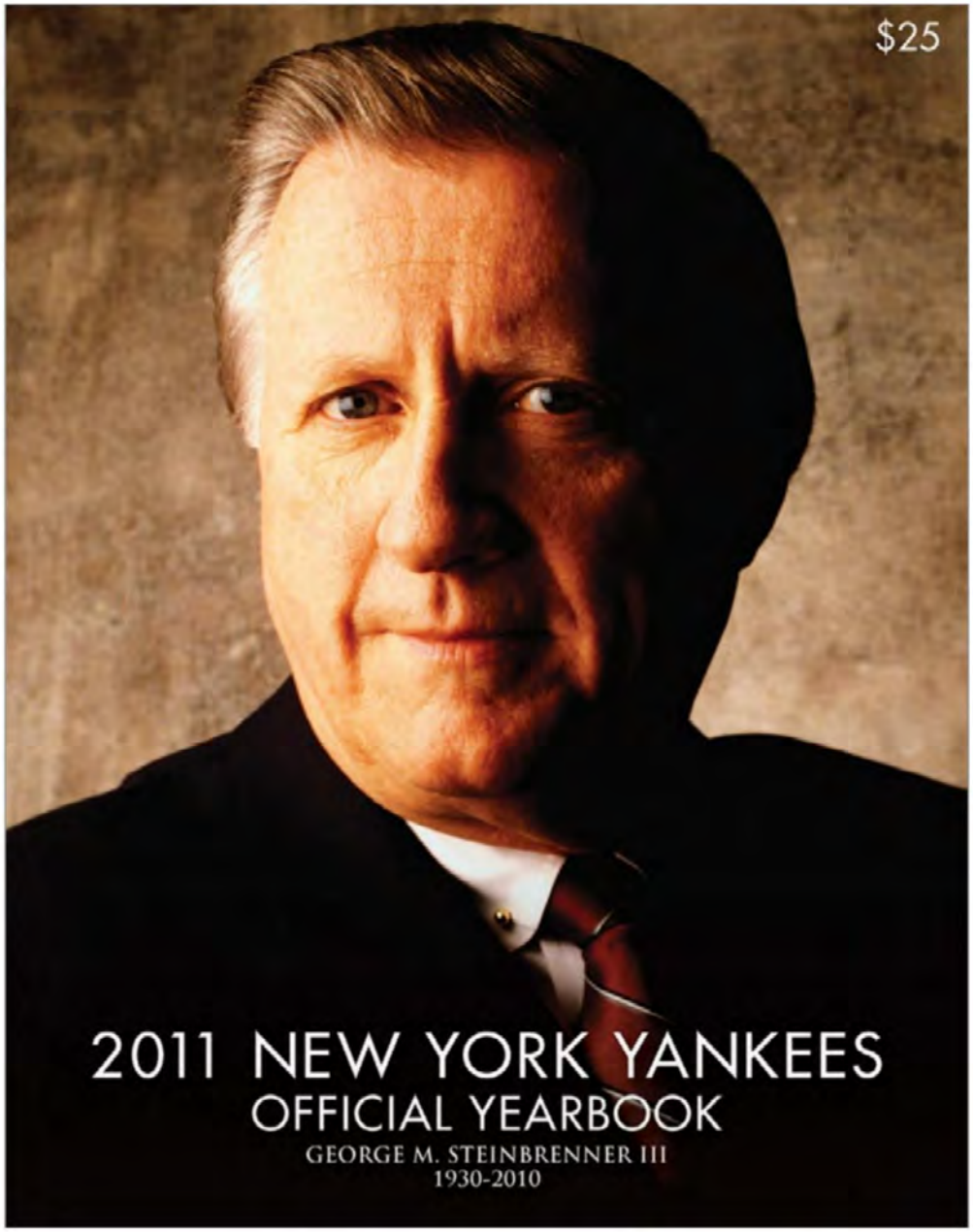
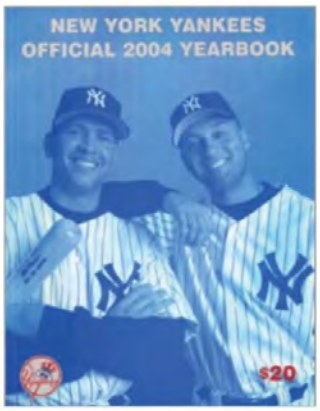
YANKEES YEARBOOKS









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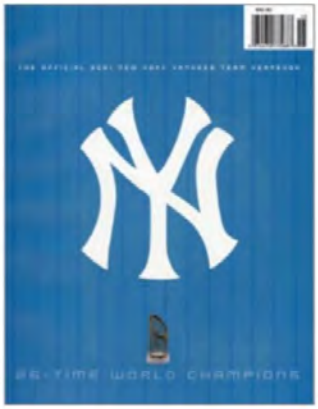
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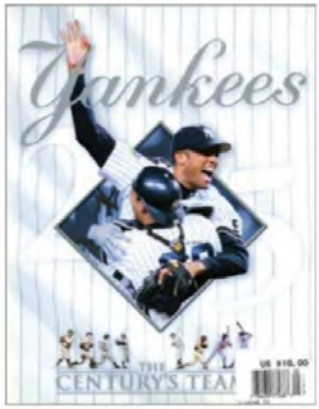
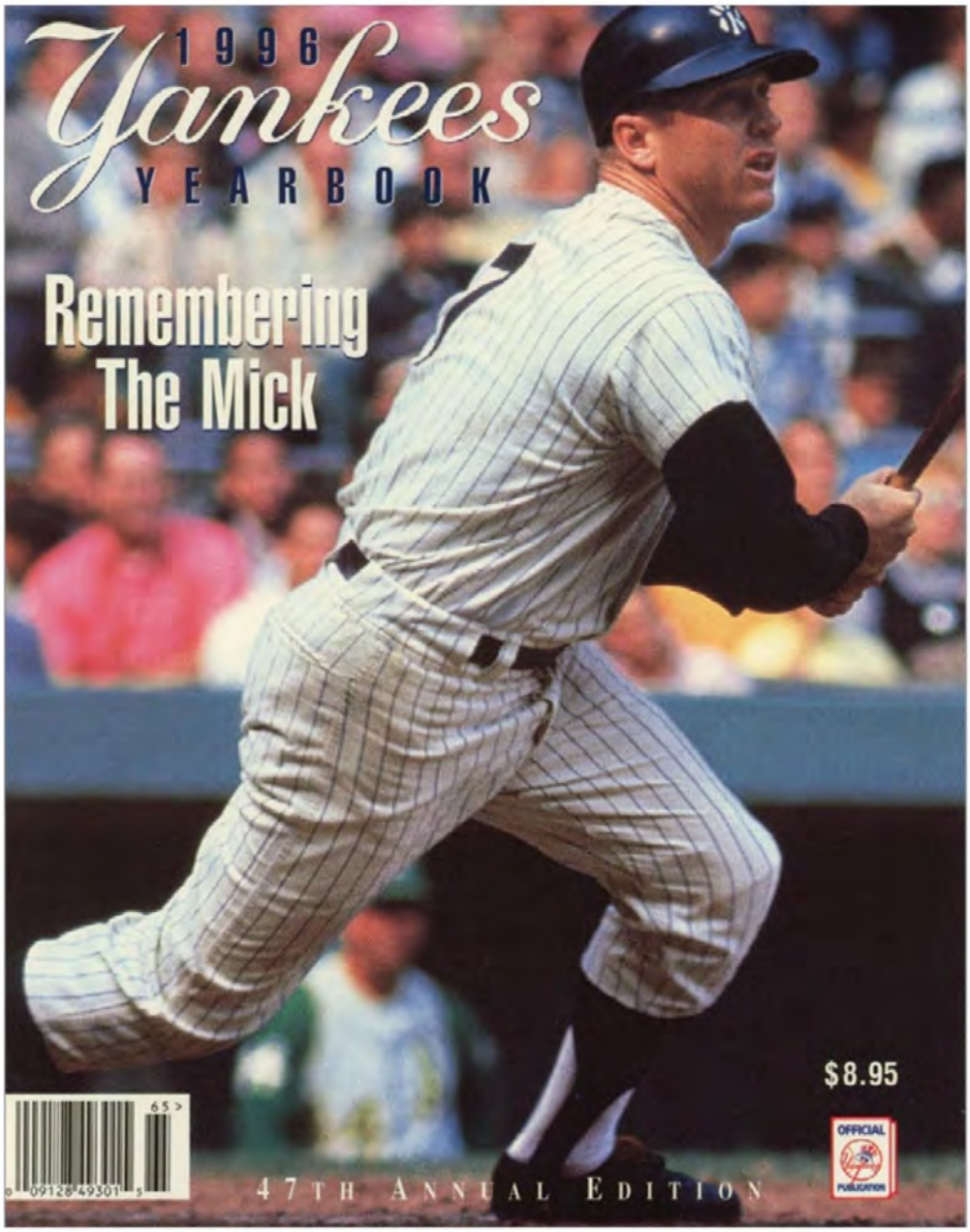

Yankees
THE CENTURY'S TEAM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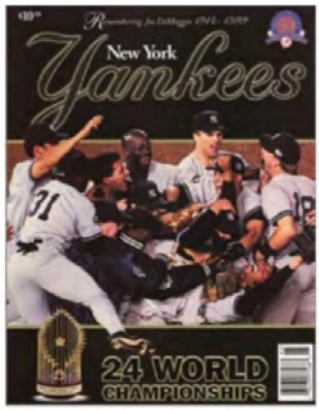
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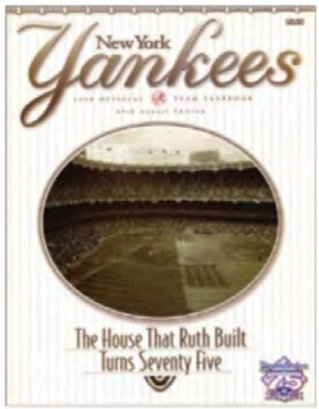
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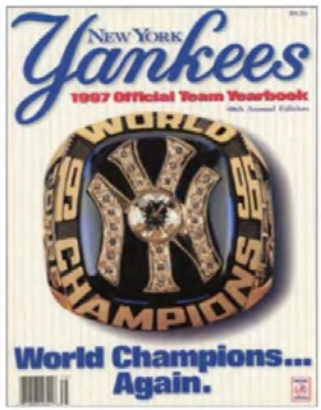
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1997 Official Team Yearbook
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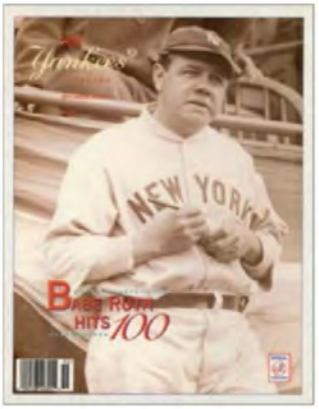
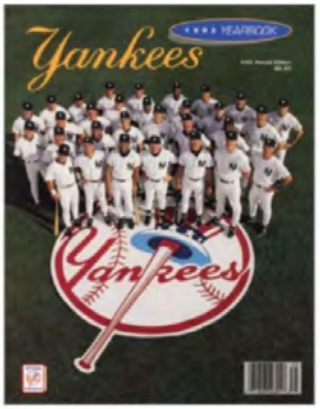
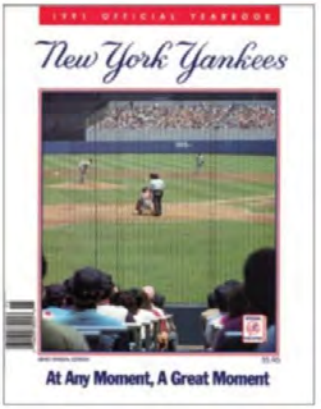
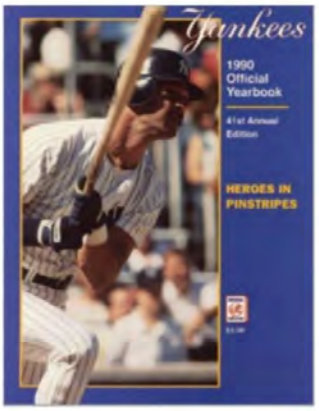
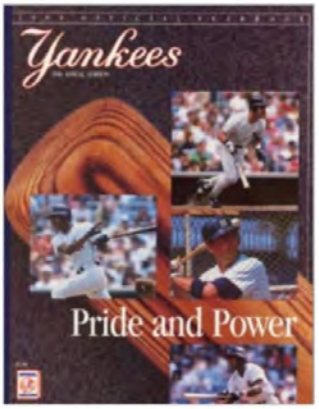
YANKEES YEARBOOKS

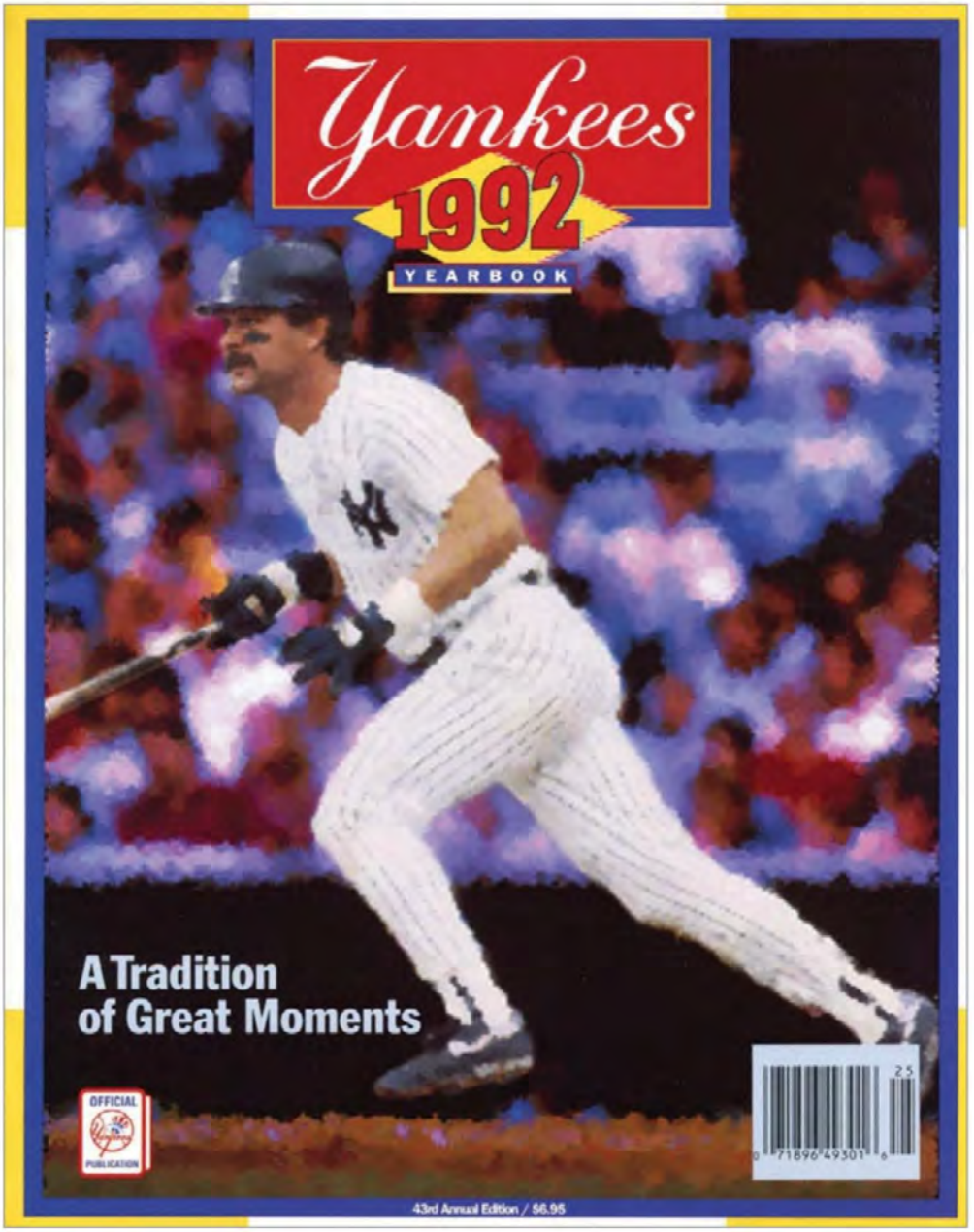












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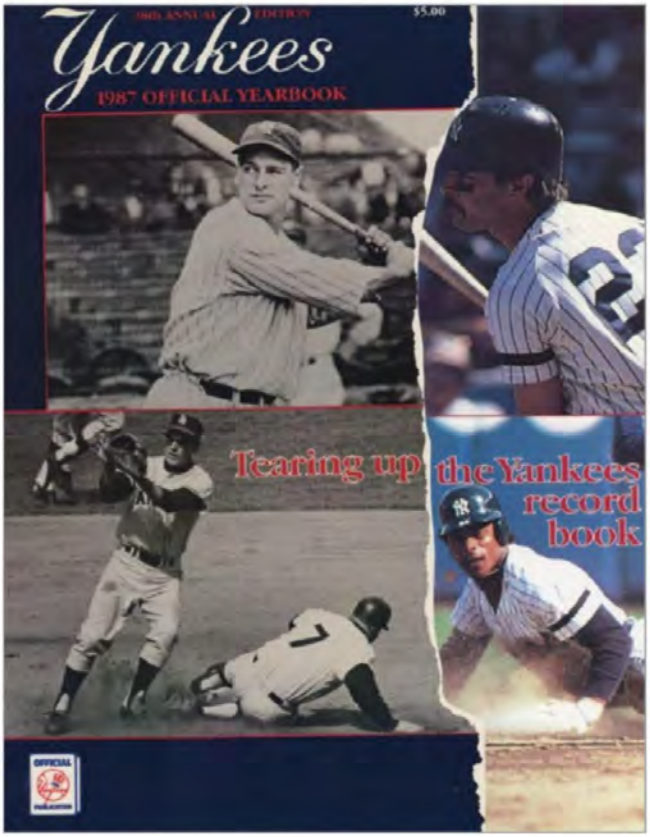

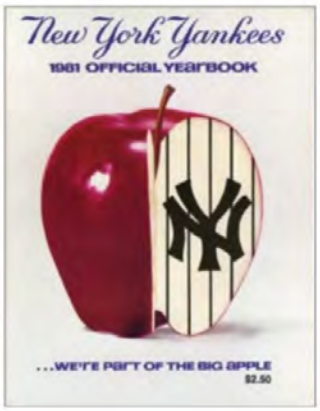

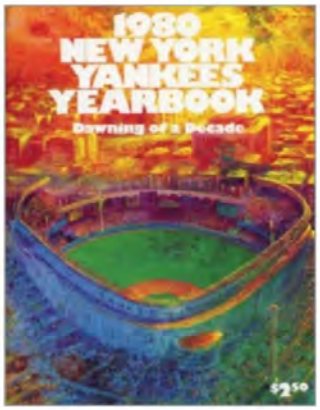

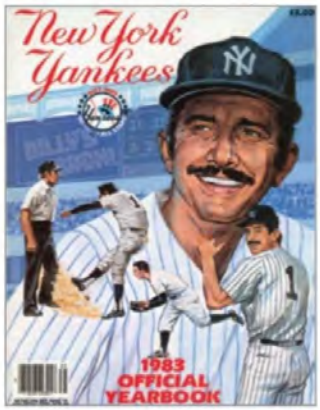

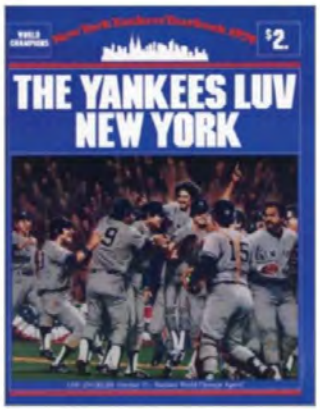

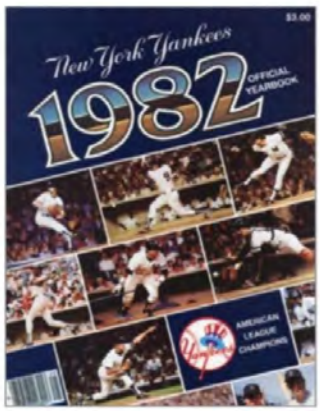

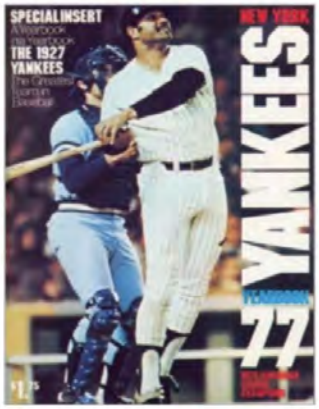
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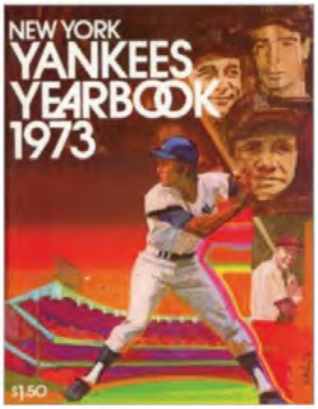
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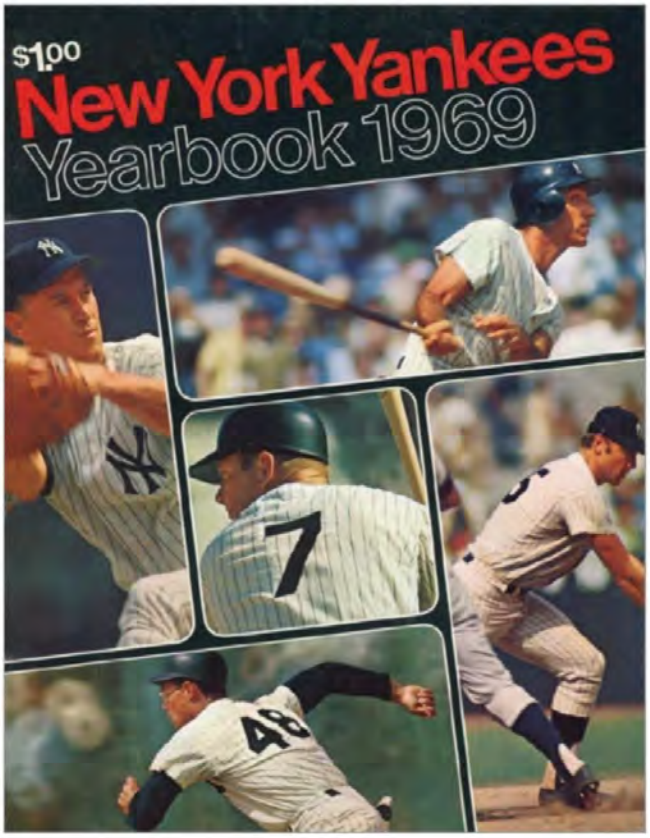
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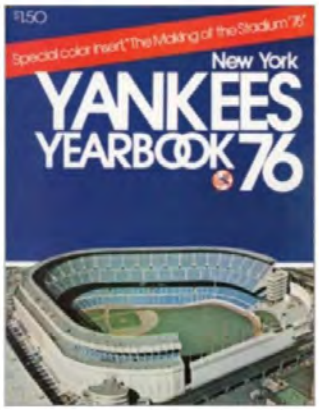
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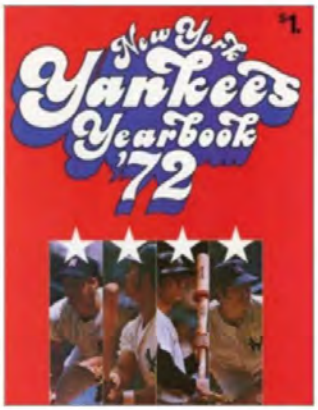
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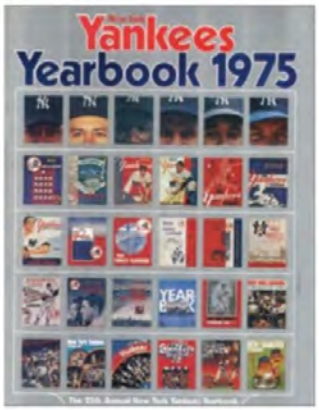
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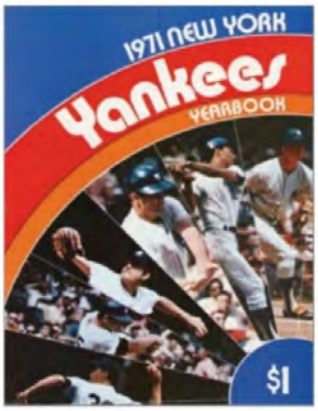
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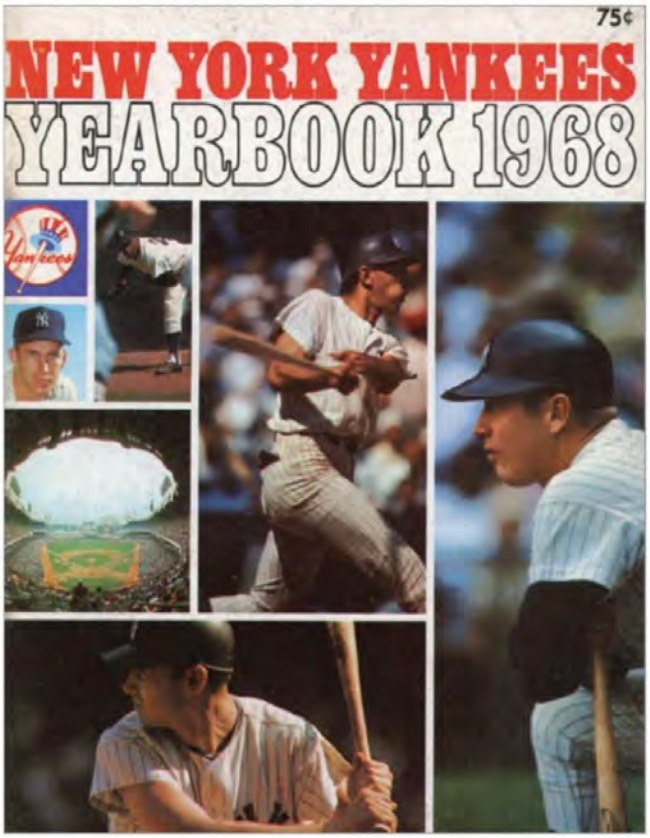
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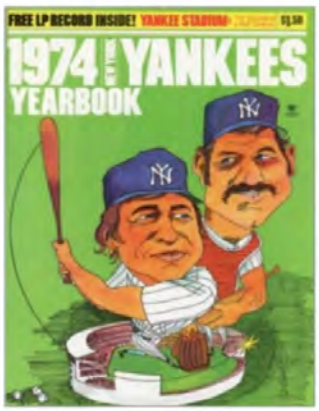
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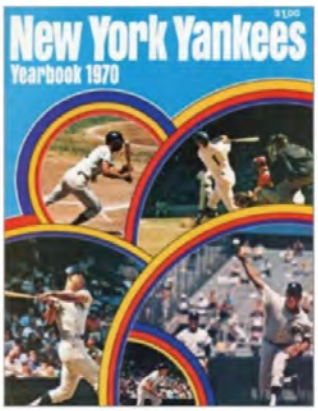
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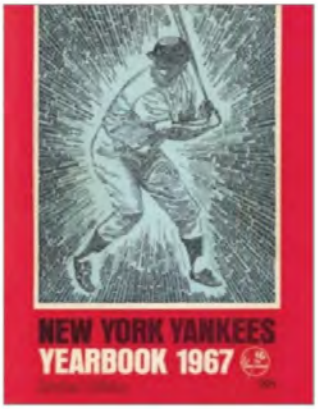
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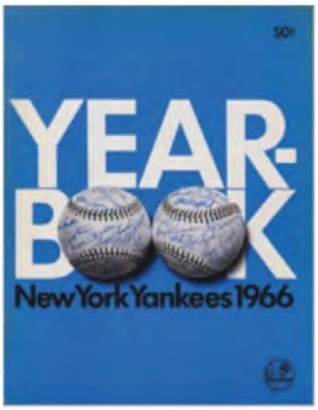
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New York Yankees 1966

New York
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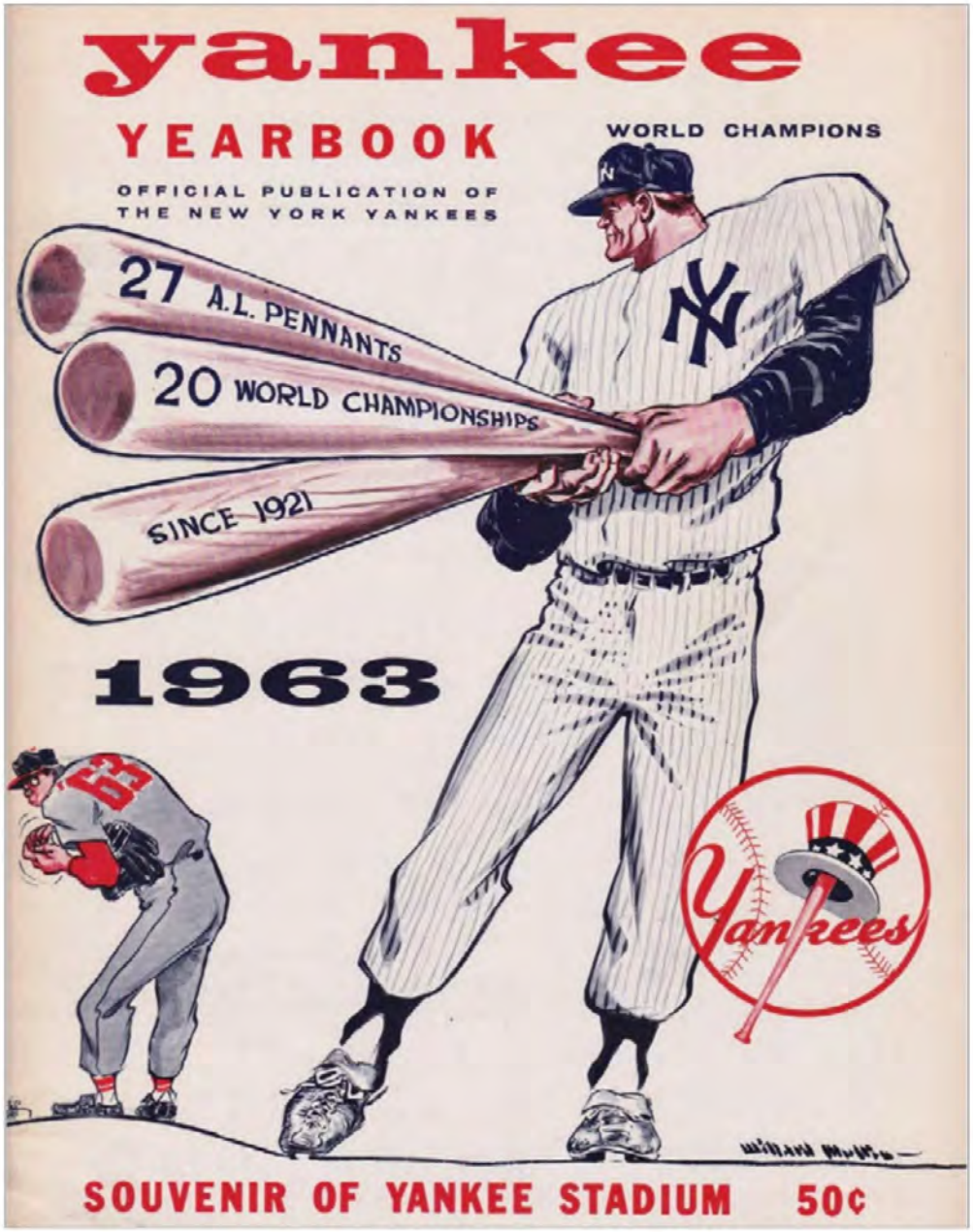
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THE NEW YORK YANKEES
27 A.L. PENNANTS
20 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS
SINCE 1921
1963
Yankees
SOUVENIR OF YANKEE STADIUM 50¢

1964
YANKEE
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1962
yankee
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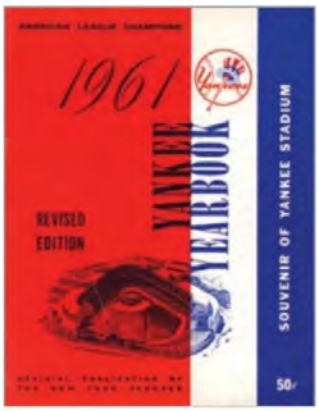
1961
REVISED
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YEARBOOK
SOUVENIR OF YANKEE STADIUM
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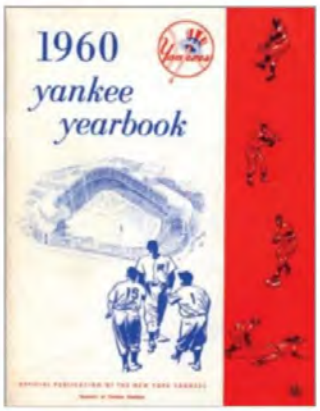
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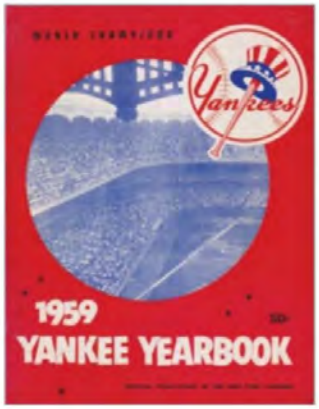
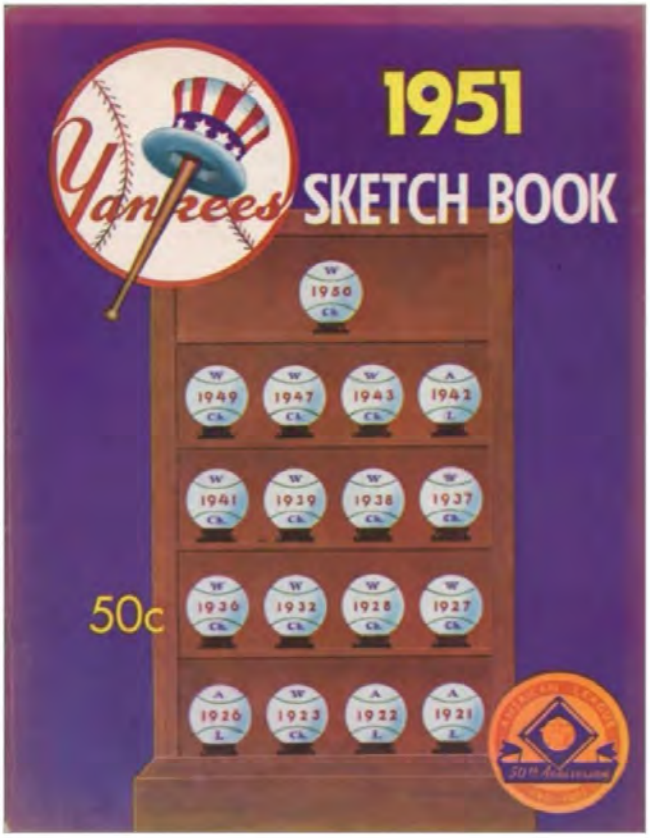
yearbook


1959
YANKEE YEARBOOK

1955
Yankees
YEARBOOK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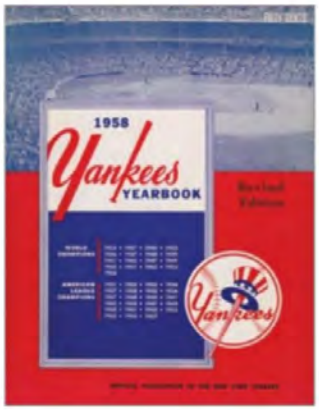
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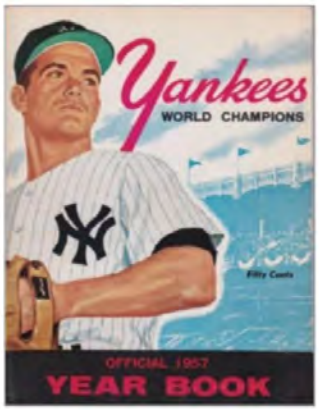
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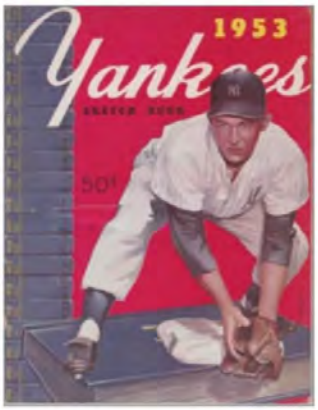
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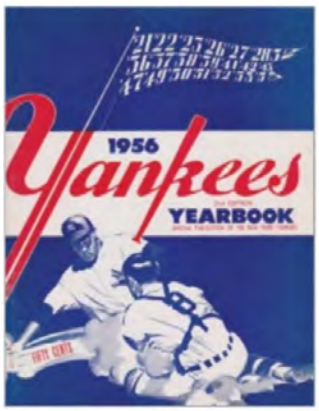
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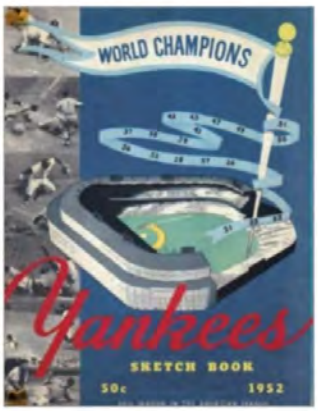
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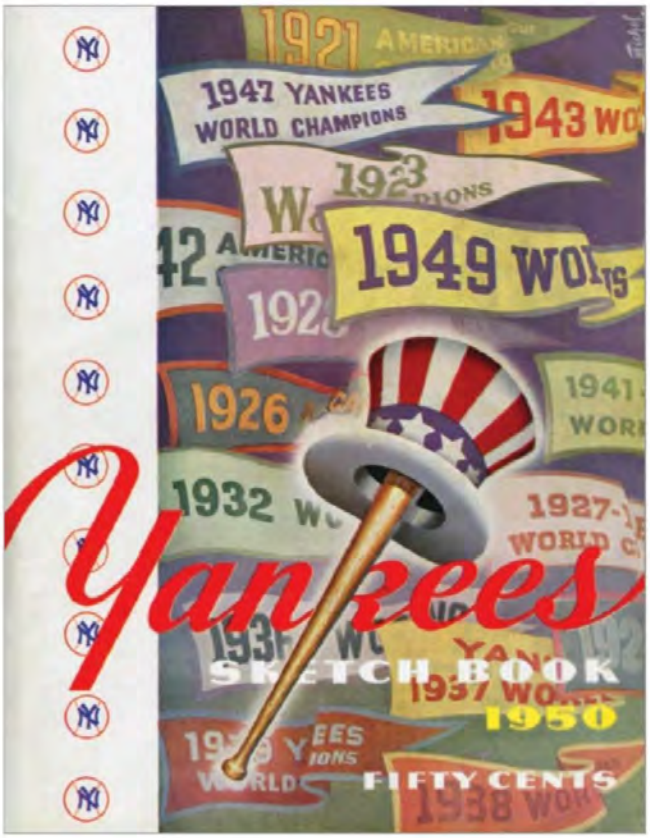
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GOLDEN YEARS

Ralph Terry's triumphant Game 7 gem was magnificent, but in 1962, a brilliant era of Yankees baseball was nearing its end

By Rich Thomaselli

Let's begin at the end because, really, if you mention the 1962 New York Yankees' season, the first thought that comes to mind is the nail-biting, Game 7 finish to the World Series against the San Francisco Giants that October.

And, well, because even though the Yankees would go on to win the American League pennant in 1963 and '64, it really was a beginning to the end of a dynasty from the Golden Age of baseball.

Few Fall Classics reach a Game 7. Fewer still go to the bottom of the ninth of Game 7 with a 1-0 score. Even fewer than that produce the kind of drama that surrounded that last half-inning in '62.

Of course, that depends on one's definition of "drama."

"He said that!?" Tony Kubek says with a hearty laugh when the Yankees shortstop is reminded of a story told by his double-play partner, second baseman Bobby Richardson, that Kubek was cracking jokes during a critical pause in play in that ninth inning at Candlestick Park in San Francisco.

"I like to think of it more as lightening the mood," Kubek, still laughing, says. "I mean, it was a tense moment. We're on the road, the crowd is going crazy, Candlestick was a wacky ballpark to play in anyway, there's already enough drama just from the fact it was Game 7, and then look who the Giants have coming up."

But … more on that later.

This year marks the 60th anniversary of that 1962 season, which was, quite symmetrically, the 60th season of New York Yankees baseball. Kubek is now 86 years old and living in Wisconsin. Richardson is also 86 and living in South Carolina. Héctor López is 92. Al Downing, who was called up to the big leagues during the famous "61 in '61" season but made just one appearance during 1962, is 80. Even the forever cool, hip Joe Pepitone will be 82 later this year.

They are among just a handful of players from 60 years ago who are still with us. Just days after being interviewed for this story, pitcher Ralph Terry — who had an absolutely brilliant 1962 campaign for the Yanks and figured so prominently in that World Series — died on March 16 at the age of 86.

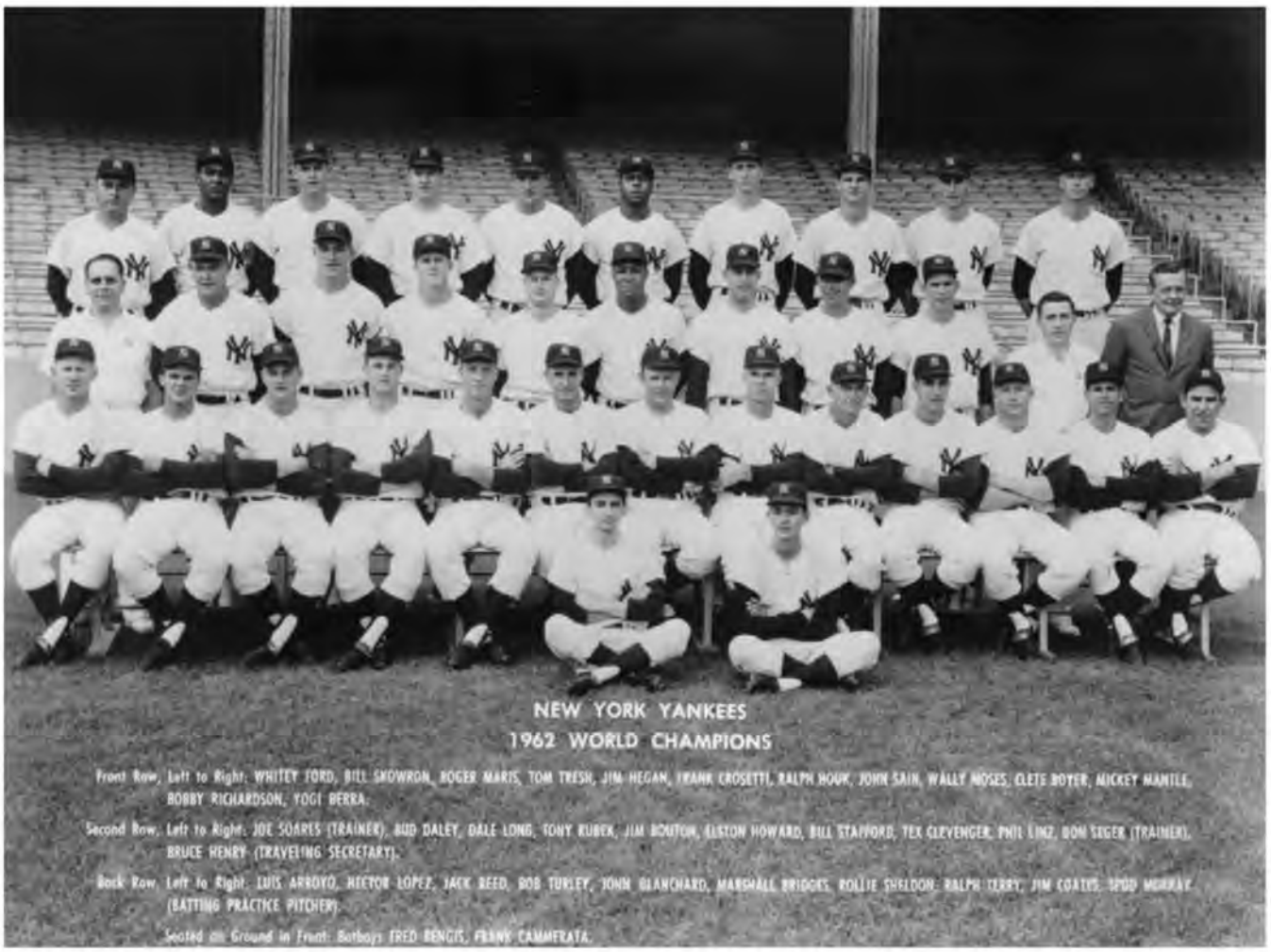
"Oh man, Ralph was just a bulldog that year," López says from his home in Florida. "I mean, I know this didn't happen, but it seemed like he was pitching every other day instead of every four days. That's how much of a bulldog he was and how much we relied on him that year."

Whitey Ford was still the ace of the rotation in 1962, coming off his spectacular 25-4 Cy Young campaign in 1961, and he did go 17-8 with a 2.90 ERA. But Terry was a monster. The right-hander made a league-high 39 starts in '62 and went 23-12 with a 3.19 ERA. He threw 298⅔ innings, faced a league-high 1,191 batters and tossed three shutouts. He even picked up two saves in four relief appearances.

"You know the funny thing about that year? Never felt tired. Never felt run-down," Terry said. "I thought I would hit a wall at some point, but I never did."

Offensively, it wasn't necessarily a banner year. Or, at the very least, certainly not comparable to the explosion a year earlier, when Roger Maris hit 61 home runs and Mickey Mantle had 54 in the season-long duel to chase down the single-season record of 60 set by Babe Ruth in 1927. Harmon Killebrew had 48 home runs and 126 RBI for the 1962 Twins, who finished five games behind the Yankees for the American League pennant, and Pete Runnels led the AL with a .326 batting average for a sub-.500 Red Sox team.

Maris finished with another strong year, leading the Yankees with 33 home runs and



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100 RBI. Surprisingly, though, Mantle was named AL MVP after playing in just 123 games. He hit a team-high .321 with 30 homers and 89 RBI.

"It was a surprise to Mickey, but not to me," Richardson says. "Mickey missed a lot of games that year. As Mickey went, we went. You add another 25, 30 games and figure out what those stats would have been like."

It was players like Richardson who stepped up when Mantle was out. The second baseman had one of his best seasons, playing 161 games, leading the league with 209 hits and finishing second in the MVP voting.

"I'll never forget Mickey saying publicly, 'Bobby should have won the MVP,'" Richardson recalls. "That was one of the biggest thrills of my career, for Mickey to say that."

Tom Tresh, who played the bulk of the year at shortstop, was another key contributor and finished second on the team with 93 RBI. Catcher Elston Howard knocked in 91 runs. First baseman Bill "Moose" Skowron belted 23 home runs and drove in 80. López, who turned in a terrific 1961 World Series, played 106 games mostly in left field and hit .275 with 48 RBI.

"People talk about that 1961 season, but in my mind, you have to loop those three seasons together. The '60, '61 and '62 teams were dominant teams," López says. "I mean, look at some of the guys who just didn't get a lot of time or who had to be in the minors."

Indeed, Downing was one of them. The left-hander made his major league debut in 1961 at the age of 20 and appeared in five games. In 1962, he made just one appearance and spent most of the season with the Yankees' minor league team in Richmond, Virginia.

"It was a tough lineup and a tough (pitching) staff to crack, for sure," Downing says from his home in California. "The talent was obvious, and the expectations were even higher."

Downing was not one of the minor league players added when major league rosters expanded in September of '62, although his lone appearance came on Sept. 30. But with

The '62 Fall Classic saw the return of an old rivalry, with the Yankees facing the Giants – who had left for San Francisco just five years earlier – for the seventh time. After splitting the first two games in San Francisco, the Yankees and Giants were locked in a scoreless tie in Game 3 until Maris delivered a two-run single in the seventh that plated Tresh and Mantle. The Yanks would hold on for a 3-2 win in front of 71,434 fans that Sunday afternoon.

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his Army service beginning in October, the pitcher wouldn't have been available for the World Series, regardless. Asked if he followed along as his teammates faced the Giants in the Fall Classic, Downing laughs.

"Son, you've never been in the Army, have you?" he says. "There were no TVs in the barracks. The only TV was in the PX (Post Exchange), but those were day games in the World Series back then, and in the Army your days are kind of busy."

But Downing pauses and adds: "We sure did find out about it, though. Especially the way it ended."

The 1962 World Series brought about a return of an old New York rivalry. The Giants had left the Polo Grounds in Manhattan for San Francisco just five years earlier. Much has been made of the Yankees' October battles with the Dodgers, but the Yankees and Giants met six times in the World Series between 1921 and 1951. The rivalry was bitter — after all, the two franchises shared the Polo Grounds until the Yankees purchased Babe Ruth and started becoming more popular, causing the Giants to, at one point, give the Yankees an eviction notice that was later rescinded. The enmity, of course, led to the construction of Yankee Stadium just across the river in the Bronx.

So, after the Giants won a dramatic three-game playoff against the Dodgers for the National League pennant, the '62 Series was the first time in 11 years the former co-tenants would meet.

"A great team. A fearsome team," Kubek says of the '62 Giants. "I think about that roster today, and I'm still like, 'Wow.' Mays, McCovey, the Alou brothers, Marichal, Cepeda … Harvey Kuenn was on that team too, and if I remember right he hit over .300 that year."

It was .304, to be exact.

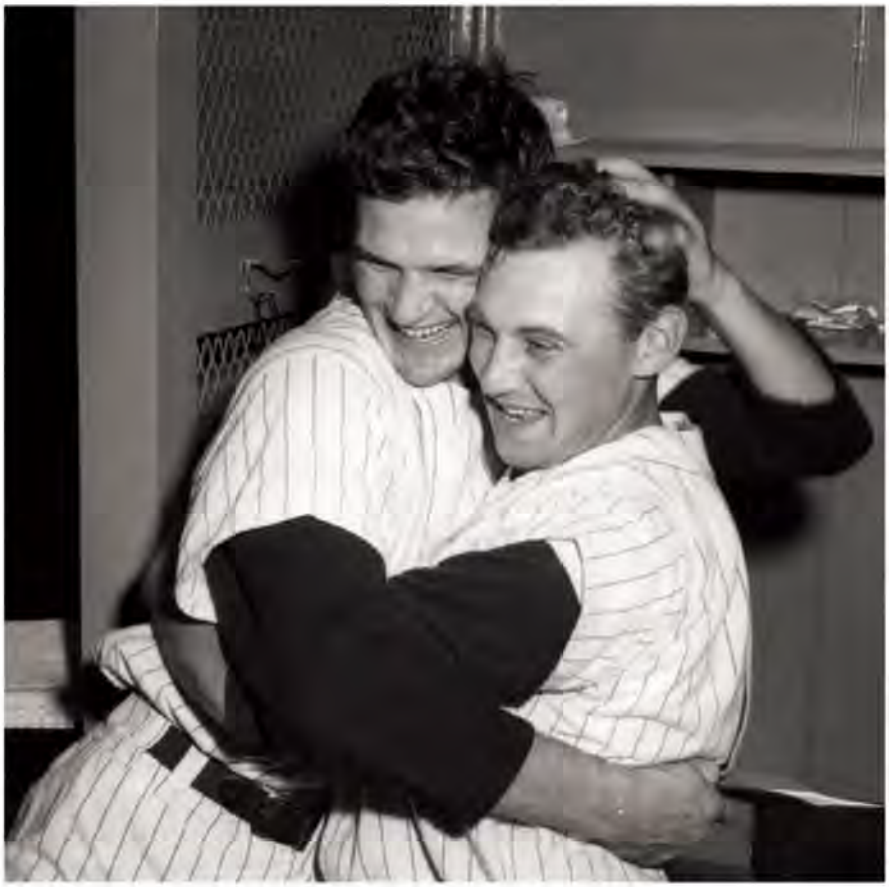
The Giants were a veritable All-Star team, and the World Series was just as competitive as many had expected. After the teams split the first two games at Candlestick, the Yankees came home and won two of three at the Stadium to take a 3-games-to-2 Series lead back to San Francisco.

Because of the cross-country travel — the first World Series in history pitting together teams on opposite coasts — and two games postponed by rain, the drama was extended. After Game 5 was postponed for a day in New York by rain, Game 6 in San Francisco was actually postponed three days because of torrential downpours in Northern California. That allowed Yankees manager Ralph Houk to tab Terry — who had won Game 5 — for his third start of the World Series instead of Jim Bouton. San Francisco manager Alvin Dark tabbed Jack Sanford to oppose Terry in Game 7.

It was a classic pitcher's duel, the only run coming in the top of the fifth inning. Skowron and Clete Boyer opened with singles, and Sanford inexplicably walked Terry to load the bases with nobody out.

"I actually wasn't a bad hitter. I had a pretty good eye at the plate," Terry said. "I even tried switch-hitting once, but they didn't let me do it after that. They said, 'You know what? Just take care of the score on the mound.'"

Kubek was up next. The beloved Yankee, who had missed much of the 1962 season because of military service and played just 45 games during the regular season, drew the Game 7 start at shortstop and batted leadoff, with eventual Rookie of Year Tresh moving to left field.



The Yankees took a 3-games-to-2 lead in the Series after a 5-3 win in Game 5. Tresh [R] delivered the big blow, a three-run homer in the eighth off Jack Sanford, while Terry went the distance, striking out seven and walking one. Terry, the 26-year-old All-Star right-hander, was a workhorse in '62, making 39 starts and pitching nearly 300 innings during the regular season.

Kubek grounded into a 6-4-3 double play that allowed Skowron to scamper home with what would be the game's only run.

"Who knew, right?" Kubek says.

Terry, who was masterful all game and didn't walk a batter, came out to start the bottom of the ninth inning. He had given up just two hits through the first eight frames, but Matty Alou led off for the Giants and dropped down a perfect bunt.

"That was my fault," Richardson says. "I was playing in, but I just couldn't throw him out."

Terry got the next two batters, but Willie Mays then roped an opposite-field double to right field. Despite the much-heralded catch that Richardson would make moments later, the second baseman has always insisted that the play of the game belonged to Maris in right field on Mays' double.

"With all the rain we had, Roger slipped and still made the best play I ever saw," Richardson says. "We agreed that if the ball went to center field that Tony would go out to the outfield for the relay throw, and if it went to right, I would handle it. I went out, Roger got to the ball and got it to me quick, I got the relay and made a strong throw home, and they stopped Matty Alou at third base."

Still, there were runners on second and third and Willie McCovey coming up. With Mays at second, a base hit would have likely given the Giants the World Series.

That sent the Yanks' skipper out of the dugout for a mound visit. Houk wasn't about to take Terry out, even though the pitcher was in a similar situation to the one he had faced in Game 7 of the 1960 World Series. It was Terry who, in a tie game in the bottom of the ninth in Pittsburgh, gave up the dramatic and historic Series-winning home run to Bill Mazeroski.

This time, Houk came out to see how Terry was feeling and gave him a choice: Pick your poison.

"He first asked me how I felt, and I said I was OK. I never felt like I had lost my stuff," Terry said. "Then he asked me what I would rather do, face McCovey with first base open or walk him and face [Orlando]

Rain postponed games on both coasts during the '62 World Series, but fans' patience was rewarded with thrilling contests featuring superstars such as Mantle [L] and Mays. The previous time the two sluggers faced each other in the Fall Classic, in 1951, they were both rookies playing in New York. Neither icon stole the show in '51 or '62, but Mantle's Yanks prevailed both times.

Cepeda with the bases loaded. I told him that in a National League ballpark and with a National League umpire (behind the plate), I would rather just try pitching around Willie, and if we fell behind, then we could put him on and pitch to Cepeda."

In the meantime, while Houk was talking with Terry, there was a meeting of the minds behind second base as Richardson and Kubek got together.

"Just remember," Kubek says now, "I wasn't joking. I was just trying to dial down the tension."

The keystone combination — best friends and roommates on the road — looked at each other, and Kubek said, tongue firmly in cheek, "Geez, I hope he doesn't hit the ball to you."

"Why?" Richardson replied.

"Because you already have an error in this Series," Kubek quipped, "and we don't need another one."

Six decades later, Terry chuckled when he recalled how he "threw a pitch to Willie inside that wasn't nearly inside enough. The ironic thing is, when I looked at where Bobby was playing at second base, I thought he was moved over a little too far."

But Richardson says Houk told him to shift over a couple of steps on McCovey. As hoped, the big lefty-swinging Giants great ripped Terry's not-nearly-inside-enough pitch right at Richardson, who didn't have to leap and barely had to move at all — but was taken aback by the ferociousness of how hard the ball was hit.

"There's a liner straight to Richardson — the ballgame is over and the World Series is over!" exclaimed radio announcer George Kell. "Willie McCovey hit it like a bullet — a line drive right straight to Bobby Richardson at second base. Had that ball got out of his reach, the Giants would have been the winner. Now, it's the Yankees who have mobbed Ralph Terry in the center of the diamond, and well they should. What a pitcher Ralph Terry was here today!"

Richardson and McCovey never played against each other or even saw each other again after that October 1962 World Series until several decades later. When they finally caught up, Richardson smiled, extended his hand to shake McCovey's, and the Giants slugger first took it, appeared to examine it, and said, "I bet that still hurts, doesn't it?"

Both men broke into uproarious laughter.

"He wasn't kidding," Richardson says. "That was the hardest ball ever hit at me."

The line drive ended the game and the 1962 season. And, in some respects, it ended an era for the New York Yankees. The Yanks won the AL again each of the following two years, giving them 15 pennants in an 18-year span between 1947 and 1964, but they were dominated in a four-game sweep by Sandy Koufax and the Dodgers in the '63 World Series and lost in seven to the St. Louis Cardinals in '64 in what turned out to be something of a last hurrah for the Mantle-Ford-Berra dynasty.

"I don't think we looked at it that way at the time," López says. "We always felt like we had the best talent, we had the best player in the league in Mickey, and we had the best pitcher in Whitey. I guess if you look back on it, though ..."

"In retrospect, 1962 might not have been the 'end of an era,' but it certainly was the beginning of the end for a while," Kubek says. "Mickey's knees were giving out, Whitey started to get into his mid- to late-30s and, like all pitchers, started to lose something off his fastball. Yogi stopped playing after almost 20 years (in 1963) and then got fired after one year as manager (in 1964), even though we went all the way to a seventh game that year. Heck, I stopped playing before I was 30 (in 1965). Bobby stopped playing a year later. So, yeah, I guess it was the end of an era.

"But," Kubek adds, "what an era it was."

With the extra off-days due to rain, Terry [L, with Bill Stafford and Bud Daley] was available to start Game 7 at Candlestick Park – and he delivered. His four-hit shutout ended with one of the most memorable plays in World Series history – Richardson snagging McCovey's liner to second – and the Yankees were champions for a 20th time.

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GENTLE GIANT

Yankees mourn the loss of longtime executive FRANK SWAINE, a champion for those around him | By Alfred Santasiere III

The Yankees lost a front-office titan this past December. Frank Swaine, who served as the team's vice president of ticket operations for several decades before his retirement in 2008, passed away at the age of 88 at his home in South Carolina.

Swaine began his tenure at the old Yankee Stadium in the late 1960s as a security management assistant. He would transition to the ticket office, where he not only served as a close confidant to George Steinbrenner but also as a colleague known to many for his unwavering work ethic and off-the-charts level of care for those around him.

"He was the best person I've ever known," said Debbie Nicolosi, the Yankees' director of office administration, who began working for the team in the 1970s. "I've never met anyone like Frank, and I can't imagine that anyone like him will ever come around again."

"Frank became a friend to me almost as soon as I started working with him back in the late '90s," said longtime Yankees director of stadium operations, Carol Laurenzano. "Before I knew it, I was sitting in his office at the end of games for a half hour, just talking. He didn't divulge much, but people felt safe talking to him. There's a saying, 'It takes a village to raise a child.' Well, Frank was one man who could raise an entire village, and I witnessed that. He was like a grandfather to so many people; he was a father figure, a mentor, a brother and a friend."

Nicolosi, who, like Laurenzano, maintained a close friendship with Swaine until his passing, described just how generous the late executive could be to anyone who crossed his path.

"If someone in the office or a person outside of work wanted to purchase tickets, Frank would go out of his way to help them out, whether he knew them well or not," Nicolosi explained. "I can remember so many times when he would ask someone how much they could spend on tickets. If the amount for available tickets was too much, Frank would pay the difference out of his own pocket."

"When we got to the World Series in 1976, Frank personally made sure that employees and the press got tickets even though the demand was incredibly high," Nicolosi continued. "That meant a lot because, for so many people, it was the first time they were getting to experience a World Series at Yankee Stadium. Frank just made sure that everyone who had worked so hard was taken care of."

Swaine's kindness extended beyond the ways he impacted the *people* around him.

"If one of the bomb-sniffing dogs at the Stadium wasn't getting the job done for the police and was not able to stay in the force, Frank would do anything he could to make sure the dog would end up in a good home," Nicolosi said. "He would bring them into the office, or he would even bring them home until he could find a home for them or adopt them himself. It didn't matter; he did whatever he needed to do to make sure they ended up in a good place."

Swaine also had a unique way of helping his friends or colleagues secure a souvenir at Yankee Stadium.

"When Willie Randolph was on the Yankees' coaching staff, Frank would go out to the vomitory by the ticket office in the old Stadium during batting practice, and with his deep and distinguished voice, he would scream out Willie's number," Laurenzano explained. "Willie would throw a baseball on a line into the vomitory almost immediately. Whoever was out there with Frank would run down the ball."

Before Swaine began his life's work in the Yankees' front office, he graduated from St. Francis Prep and earned his bachelor's degree from Mount St. Mary's University.

Swaine [L, with fellow longtime Yankees front-office executive Harvey Winston] was dedicated to his job, his family and the people around him, going to great lengths to ensure all were taken care of. "He was the best person I've ever known," said Debbie Nicolosi, the Yankees' director of office administration. "I've never met anyone like Frank, and I can't imagine that anyone like him will ever come around again."

According to his family members, Swaine's original plan of playing football at the Maryland college did not come to fruition. But rather than give up on athletics, the New York City native tried out for the school's basketball team, earned a scholarship and became a collegiate star.

Swaine and his wife, Mary Anne, had four children, and the couple suffered their greatest loss on Sept. 11, 2001, when their son, John, a corporate bond broker for Cantor Fitzgerald, lost his life in the North Tower of the World Trade Center that day. Despite monumental grief, baseball's front-office iron man showed up to Yankee Stadium the next day, only missing work on the day of his son's funeral. To those around him in the days and weeks following his son's death, Swaine's mental toughness was far beyond inspiring; it was overwhelming. But he had a track record for making it into the office under difficult circumstances.

"I can remember when my dad broke his hip," Swaine's oldest of three daughters, Dianne Crowe, shared. "He wasn't able to get around or even sit up at first. So, he arranged to bring a hospital bed into the ticket office, and that's where he did his work from. My mother wasn't too happy about the situation. I can remember her telling him that his hip was never going to heal right if he didn't stay home. But he had to work; he had to be there for the people that worked for him."

Crowe also shared a much lighter story that shed light on her dad's focus on his job.

"When the movie *For Love of the Game* was filmed at Yankee Stadium, my dad met Kevin Costner," she said. "Costner gave my dad a few DVDs of other movies he had been in, and my dad brought them home. When my dad gave me the DVDs, I asked him who he got them from. He pointed to the guy on the front of the DVDs. I said, 'You got to meet Kevin Costner?' He responded, 'Yeah, what's the big deal?' He had no idea who Kevin Costner was.

"My dad went from the Stadium to his bed during the season, and then back to the Stadium early the next morning," Crowe continued. "But his family, and especially his grandchildren, were his world until the last minute. Anyone who knew him was aware of that."

Swaine wasn't shy about the loyalty and love he had for his wife, either.

"One of my favorite stories about my dad happened after the Yankees won the World Series in 1977," Crowe said. "My parents got into an elevator with George Steinbrenner after the game, and my dad congratulated George. Mr. Steinbrenner said, 'Congratulations to you too, Frank. Thank you.' My dad said, 'Don't say thank you to me, say thank you to my wife. Without her, I couldn't do this job.'"

Without Swaine, it would have been much harder for so many within the Yankees front office to do their jobs. His legacy as a champion and a champion for those around him will live on forever.

"Frank was always about everyone else," Laurenzano said. "He was the most selfless person I have ever known. He had a warm and welcoming soul. He was a gentle giant.

"Mr. Steinbrenner used to say that if you do something good for someone, and more than two people know about it, you didn't do it for the right reason," Laurenzano continued. "Frank had a lot of that in him. He really embodied that spirit."

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WORD FIND

GOLD GLOVE YANKEES

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X	M	T	L	O	T	O	O	P	M	E	N	I	Q	B
D	S	E	L	T	T	E	N	L	T	N	S	Y	A	F
K	D	J	O	G	C	Z	B	R	I	E	V	T	I	D

Wade BOGGS
Scott BROSIUS
Chris CHAMBLISS
Ron GUIDRY
Elston HOWARD
Derek JETER
Mickey MANTLE
Roger MARIS
Don MATTINGLY
Thurman MUNSON
Mike MUSSINA
Graig NETTLES
Bobby RICHARDSON
Bernie WILLIAMS
Dave WINFIELD

WHO AM I ?

I'm the only shortstop in Yankees history to have won a Gold Glove Award. (I actually won five of them.)

My "flip play" in the 2001 ALDS is regarded as one of the greatest defensive plays in postseason history.

Countless shortstops have tried to imitate my trademark jump throw from deep in the hole at short.

ANSWER KEY FOR ALL PUZZLES ON PAGE 210

KIDS CORNER

KIDS TRIVIA

FANTASTIC FIELDERS

The Bronx Bombers have always swung for the fences, but there's a long list of Yankees who have been just as impressive in the field. Whether flashing the leather in a huge moment or sustaining excellence over the years, Yankees glovemen have inspired generations of young fans with their defensive performances. Think you know the pinstripers who could really pick it? Test your knowledge with these trivia questions.

1. The first Gold Glove Awards were handed out in 1957, with just one award given at each position for both the American League and National League. (Awards would be given to fielders in both leagues beginning in 1958.) Bobby Shantz was the only Yankees player to win an award that first year. What position did he play?

A) pitcher

B) catcher

C) center field

D) first base

2. In 1996, which Yankees third baseman broke his finger trying to catch a foul popup off the bat of Atlanta's Mark Lemke that would have clinched New York's first World Series victory in 18 years, then succeeded at doing so on the very next pitch?

A) Wade Boggs

B) Charlie Hayes

C) Alex Rodriguez

D) Scott Brosius

3. Which Yankees player has won the most Gold Glove Awards — nine — in franchise history?

A) Ron Guidry B) Derek Jeter

C) Don Mattingly D) Bobby Richardson

4. In Game 3 of the 2017 ALDS, Aaron Judge made a leaping catch at the wall in the sixth inning, preserving a 0-0 tie in a game the Yankees needed to win in order to avoid getting swept. The Yanks went on to win the game and the series. Which opposing batter did Judge rob of a home run on that pivotal play?

A) Jose Altuve B) Jackie Bradley Jr.

C) Francisco Lindor D) Nelson Cruz

5. Which current Yankees outfielder won his second straight AL Gold Glove Award in right field last season despite playing in just nine games at the position for New York?

A) Giancarlo Stanton B) Aaron Hicks

C) Aaron Judge D) Joey Gallo

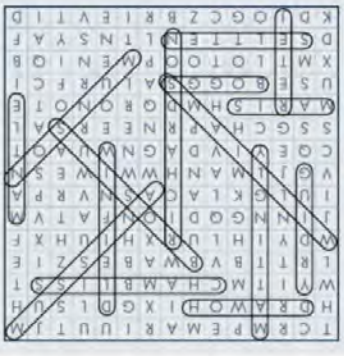
ANSWERS

FUN WITH PHOTOS

1. Added fan sign
2. Removed logo from third base coach's helmet
3. Changed color of third base coach's pants to purple
4. Flipped NY logo on DJ LeMahieu's cap
5. Removed LeMahieu's belt
6. Added dirt to LeMahieu's right knee
7. Removed laces from LeMahieu's left shoe
8. Enlarged third base
9. Added Yankees top hat logo to wall
10. Added bird to top of torp

TRIVIA WHO AM I?

1. A
2. B
3. C
4. C
5. D



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BROADCASTERS

CARLOS BELTRÁN
YES Network

DAVID CONE
YES Network

JACK CURRY
YES Network

JOHN FLAHERTY
YES Network

MICHAEL KAY
YES Network

BOB LORENZ
YES Network

MEREDITH MARAKOVITS
YES Network

CAMERON MAYBIN
YES Network

SWEENY MURTI
WFAN

NANCY NEWMAN
YES Network

PAUL O'NEILL
YES Network

RICKIE RICARDO
WADO

FRANCISCO RIVERA
WADO

RYAN RUOCCO
YES Network

CHRIS SHEARN
YES Network

JOHN STERLING
WFAN

SUZYN WALDMAN
WFAN

CARTON AND ROBERTS

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STADIUM GUIDE

CASHLESS TRANSACTIONS
To reduce and avoid contact between cash and food/retail handling, all Yankee Stadium retail food and beverage locations will be cashless and will only accept credit/debit cards, advanced purchases, and touchless payments. Additionally, mobile ordering and pick up through Uber Eats will be available at select stands on the Field, Main and Terrace Levels. For Guests who wish to pay with cash, cash conversion stations (i.e., reverse ATM machines) will be available in the Great Hall at Section 110, at Section 128, at Section 223 and at Section 320C, issuing no-fee, prepaid debit cards starting at $1 minimum denomination. The prepaid debit card can be used at any food or retail location inside the Stadium. Any remaining funds left on the prepaid debit card can be used anywhere that Mastercard is accepted.

ENTRY AND CARRY-IN POLICY
NOTICE: For the safety of every Guest, all persons specifically consent to and are subject to metal detector and physical pat-down inspections prior to entry. Any item or property that could affect the safety of Yankee Stadium, its occupants or its property shall not be permitted into the Stadium. Any person that could affect the safety of the Stadium, its occupants or its property shall be denied entry. For security reasons, each Guest is permitted to bring into Yankee Stadium only one MLB-compliant bag – presently defined by Major League Baseball as soft-sided and no larger than 16 inches by 16 inches by 8 inches – and only one smaller-sized soft-sided personal item (e.g., a handbag, clutch, tote or plastic grocery bag). All hard-sided bags and containers are strictly prohibited. All MLB-compliant bags, personal items and their contents are subject to a physical search and/or X-ray screening before they are permitted into the Stadium. **Please note: There is no storage area for any items at Yankee Stadium.** For more information regarding the entry and carry-in policy, please visit yankees.com. Re-entry is not permitted. Please note security regulations may be amended at any time.

EXIT/RE-ENTRY
Guests are not permitted to leave Yankee Stadium and return on the same ticket. Re-entry will be permitted only in the case of an emergency. In the event of an emergency, please see security personnel prior to exiting the Stadium.

pepsi GAME-DAY MESSAGES
Place a message on the Pepsi Fan Marquee in center field or on the video board in left-center field during Yankees home games. For more information and to order a message, please visit Yankees.com/Scoreboard.

GATE LOCATIONS AND OPENINGS
Yankee Stadium has four gate locations for entry and exit:
Gate 2, adjacent to left field: Enter via Jerome Avenue and East 164th Street
Gate 4, behind home plate: Enter via East 161st Street and Macombs Dam Bridge
Gate 6, adjacent to right field: Enter via East 161st Street and River Avenue
Gate 8, adjacent to center field: Enter via River Avenue and 164th Street

For New York City FC matches, gates will open 90 minutes prior to the scheduled start time of the match. For the New Era Pinstripe Bowl game, gates will open two hours prior to the scheduled start time of the game, subject to change.

Please note that gate openings for all other public events will be announced as the date(s) for those events approach. Gate openings are subject to change during inclement weather and for special events, doubleheaders, Opening Day, the Old-Timers' Day game and postseason play or at Yankee Stadium management's discretion. There may be a point during a game, match or event when Guests may only enter through the Yankee Stadium Lobby, adjacent to Gate 2.

HEALTH AND SAFETY GUIDELINES
Yankee Stadium's health and safety requirements are constantly changing in line with local and national directives. Please check www.yankees.com/updates for the most up-to-date information.

LOST AND FOUND
Anyone wishing to turn in a found item or inquire about a lost item may do so at the Guest Relations and Ticket Sales Booth, adjacent to Gate 6 in the Great Hall, or at the Yankee Stadium Lobby, adjacent to Gate 2. To inquire via phone, please call (718) 579-4413. Lost items turned in to Yankee Stadium management will be held at the Stadium for 10 days before being relinquished in accordance with New York State law.

MONUMENT PARK
Monument Park, located in center field, recognizes legends who have appeared at Yankee Stadium over the years. On game days, it opens with the gates and remains accessible for Guests' enjoyment until 45 minutes prior to the scheduled start time of the game (subject to strict capacity limitations). Please note that the line to Monument Park may close earlier than the Park itself. Signage directs Guests to Monument Park. Yankee Stadium Team Members are also available to assist Guests.

NEW YORK YANKEES MUSEUM presented by BANK OF AMERICA
Ticketed Guests (subject to strict capacity limitations) can enjoy the museum free of charge when gates open until the end of the eighth inning for Yankees home games. Other exceptions to this do apply. Guests can also experience the museum as part of Yankee Stadium tours.

NURSING MOTHERS
A mother may nurse her child in any public location where she is comfortable. Nursing mothers seeking more discreet accommodations are welcome to use the dedicated space in the Plymouth Rock® Kids Clubhouse, subject to availability.

SMOKING POLICY
Smoking, including the use of electronic cigarettes, is prohibited in Yankee Stadium. There are no designated smoking areas, and re-entry is prohibited. The use of smokeless tobacco is also prohibited. Violators will be ejected immediately without refund and may face possible revocation of season tickets and/or future ticket privileges.

TEXT MESSAGING
Guests can confidentially text security and guest relations questions and concerns to (917) 746-0088 (message and data rates may apply).

YANKEE STADIUM EVENTS
Yankee Stadium is the perfect venue to host personal or corporate events. For more information, please visit yankees.com/events, call (646) 977-8400 or email events@yankees.com.

YANKEE STADIUM SUITES
For information about suites at Yankee Stadium, please visit www.yankees.com/suites.

YANKEE STADIUM TOURS* presented by
Tour Yankee Stadium and absorb the rich history of the 27-time World Series Champions. Visit iconic locations such as Monument Park, where the Bronx Bombers' greatest legends are enshrined. Discover the Yankees' heroes, milestones and winning tradition inside the New York Yankees Museum, presented by Bank of America. See how Yankee Stadium offers experiences and events extending beyond the baseball field. Each tour is led by one of our knowledgeable tour guides.

For scheduling and ticket information, please visit www.yankees.com/tours, call (646) 977-TOUR, or email tours@yankees.com.

*The Yankees reserve the right to cancel all or part of any tour. If a tour date and/or time is canceled, all tickets will be refunded. ALL tour dates, times, locations and routes are subject to change without notice.

The number of innings in a regulation game shall be determined by Major League Baseball and may be shortened in accordance with Major League Baseball rules. The Yankees make no representation, warranty and/or guarantee that nine (9) innings will be played in any regulation game.

The number of games in a regular season shall be determined by Major League Baseball. The Yankees make no representation, warranty and/or guarantee that a regular season will be comprised of eighty-one (81) home games.

Please note that protective netting of varying heights is located between Section 011 on the first base/right field side of the Stadium and continues to Section 029 on the third base/left-field side of the Stadium.

WARNING: For the safety of everyone in Yankee Stadium, all Guests must stay alert and be aware of their surroundings at all times, as during all batting practices, fielding practices and warm-ups and throughout the course of all baseball games and the baseball game experiences, hard-hit baseballs and bats and fragments thereof may be thrown or hit into the stands, concourses, walkways, concessions areas, Monument Park and all other publicly accessible areas within the Stadium. Further, Guests concerned with their original ticketed location by reason of the foregoing should, at any time before or during the baseball game or the baseball game experiences, proceed to the Guest Relations Booth, located adjacent to Gate 6 in the Great Hall or the Yankee Stadium Ticket Window, located adjacent to the Yankees Team Store behind home plate in the Great Hall; however, please remember that: (a) any requested relocation is subject to availability; (b) any alternate seat or standing location may be in a section and/or level of the Stadium and/or within a price category that is not in the same section and/or level and/or price category of the Guests' original ticketed location, regardless of their original ticketed location; and (c) any Guest requesting relocation is responsible for paying the incremental price increase, if any, of the ticket price for the available alternate location. Relocation to a seat or standing location at a lower price than the price of the original ticketed location will not result in a refund or credit.

WARNING: Guests may not transmit or aid in transmitting any photographs, images, videos, audio, livestreams or other accounts or descriptions (including play-by-play data), whether text, data or visual, in any media, now known or hereafter developed, of all or any part of the game or related events, without the express written consent of the Yankees.

NOTICE: For the safety of every Guest, all persons specifically consent to and are subject to: (a) being screened by metal detectors; (b) bag/clothing inspections; and (c) physical pat-down inspections prior to entry. Any item or property that could affect the safety of Yankee Stadium, its occupants or its property shall not be permitted into the Stadium. Any person that could affect the safety of the Stadium, its occupants or its property shall be denied entry.

NOTICE: The Yankees reserve the right, with or without refunding any amount paid by the ticket holder, to refuse admission to and/or eject any person who: (a) is or appears to be impaired; (b) conceals alcohol, illegal substances and/or other prohibited items while attempting to enter Yankee Stadium; (c) acts in a manner that is unruly, disruptive or illegal; (d) uses derogatory, foul and/or abusive language and/or gestures; (e) displays and/or wears and fails to cover obscene, indecent and/or inappropriate clothing; (f) exposes him/herself; (g) otherwise violates the Stadium's Code of Conduct, ordinances, rules, requirements, directives, regulations; or (h) interferes with any ball in the field of play or any sports or event participant attempting to make a play on any batted, pitched or thrown baseball. Ticket holders acknowledge and agree that the Yankees' ban on derogatory, foul and/or abusive language and/or gestures and obscene, indecent and/or inappropriate clothing (i.e., clauses (d) through (f) above) does not violate their right to free speech and/or expression and that such time, place and manner of the restrictions are reasonable to maintain a family-friendly atmosphere for minors, ensure the safety of all Guests and sports or event participants, and preserve the enjoyment of the game or event for all Guests. In addition, ticket holders further acknowledge and agree that by entering the Stadium, they hereby consent to the ban on derogatory, foul and/or abusive language and/or gestures and obscene, indecent and/or inappropriate clothing and waive, to the fullest extent they may legally and effectively do so, any objection they may now or hereafter have to such ban and the penalties that the Yankees may impose for any violation of the same.

STADIUM MAP & DIRECTIONS

PLEASE NOTE THAT PROTECTIVE NETTING OF VARYING HEIGHTS IS USED IN THE STADIUM FROM SECTION 011 TO BEHIND HOME PLATE TO SECTION 029.

FOR INDIVIDUAL TICKETS

ticketmaster®

yankees.com yankeesbeisbol.com

TRANSPORTATION AND PARKING

DRIVING DIRECTIONS

Yankee Stadium is located at One East 161st Street in the Bronx and is accessible from the Major Deegan Expressway (Interstate 87) at the following exits:

Northbound I-87: Exit 4 (East 149th Street/145th Street Bridge) and Exit 5 (East 161st Street/Macombs Dam Bridge)

Southbound I-87: Exit 5 (East 161st Street/ Macombs Dam Bridge)

For drivers using GPS, please plug the following address into your GPS unit:
One East 161st Street, Bronx, New York.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

By Subway: The No. 4 train (East Side) and the D train (Sixth Avenue) make stops at the 161st Street/ Yankee Stadium subway station, located on East 161st Street and River Avenue. B train (Sixth Avenue) service is also available, but only on weekdays. For more information, please visit www.mta.info or call the MTA at 511.

By Bus: Several New York City bus lines provide service to the Stadium. The Bx6 and Bx13 buses stop at East 161st Street and River Avenue; the Bx1 and Bx2 buses stop at East 161st Street and the Grand Concourse, a short walk from the Stadium; and the BxM4 stops at the Grand Concourse and East 161st Street (northbound) and East 158th Street (southbound). For more information, please visit www.mta.info or call the MTA at 511.

By Train: Metro-North offers train service to the Stadium. For more information, please visit www.mta.info or call the MTA at 511.

PREPAID PARKING*

The Yankees neither control nor operate the parking lots and garages surrounding the Stadium and are not responsible for setting parking lot rates, refund policies, rules and/or procedures. City Parking was granted these rights, including responsibility for establishing and controlling parking rates, refund policies, rules and/or procedures, by New York City. Prepaid individual-game parking must be obtained from City Parking. For more information, please visit City Parking at www.cityparking.nyc or call City Parking at (718) 588-7817. For Yankees Season Ticket Licensees, full- and partial-season parking packages can be purchased at a discount off the game-day parking rate. Licensees should contact their Yankees representative at (212) YANKEES for more information.

*Visit www.cityparking.nyc or call (718) 588-7817 throughout the season for lot availability.

FOR TICKET INFORMATION, INCLUDING PRICING, PLEASE VISIT YANKEES.COM OR CALL (212) YANKEES.

Time, opponent, date, team rosters and lineups are subject to change.

The number of innings in a regulation game shall be determined by Major League Baseball and may be shortened in accordance with Major League Baseball rules. The Yankees make no representation, warranty and/or guarantee that nine (9) innings will be played in any regulation game.

The number of games in a regular season shall be determined by Major League Baseball. The Yankees make no representation, warranty and/or guarantee that a regular season will be comprised of eighty-one (81) home games.

Game times listed as TBD are subject to determination by, among others, Major League Baseball and its television partners.

For the 2022 regular season, "Premium Games" are the following games: (a) Opening Day home game; (b) all home games against the Boston Red Sox, Chicago Cubs and New York Mets; and (c) select Saturday home games on June 25, 2022, July 30, 2022 and Aug. 20, 2022.

All individual game ticket prices are subject to variable and dynamic pricing, which provide fans with more price options based on changing factors that affect market demand.

In no event will the Yankees be liable to the ticket holder and/or ticket purchaser for any direct, indirect, consequential, exemplary, incidental, special or punitive damages or for lost profits, revenues or business opportunities even if the Yankees have been advised of the possibility of such damages.

Be advised that the Yankees reserve the right to take appropriate action against individuals who fraudulently obtain wheelchair accessible and/or companion seats, including, without limitation, ejection and legal action.

Tickets may not be used for advertising, promotion (including contests, giveaways, or sweepstakes), charitable, trade or commercial purposes without the express written consent of the Yankees.

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CONCESSIONS, MERCHANDISE & AMENITIES

FIELD LEVEL

PLEASE NOTE THAT PROTECTIVE NETTING OF VARYING HEIGHTS IS USED IN THE STADIUM FROM SECTION 011 TO BEHIND HOME PLATE TO SECTION 029.

CONCESSIONS AND MERCHANDISE OFFERINGS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. VISIT YANKEES.COM FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION.

USE YOUR MASTERCARD AT YANKEE STADIUM CONCESSIONS STANDS.

MERCHANDISE

- **MONUMENT PARK STORE** — SECTION 103
- **FIRST BASE TEAM STORE** — SECTIONS 114A–114B
- **YANKEES MERCHANDISE** — SECTIONS 130 & 135 & PEPSI FOOD COURT
- **YANKEES TEAM STORES** — GATE 6 & BEHIND HOME PLATE

DESTINATIONS

- **DRAFTKINGS SPORTSBOOK LOUNGE** — SECTIONS 027B-029
- **CUTWATER LOUNGE** — SECTIONS 011-013
- **FORD FIELD MVP CLUB** — BEHIND HOME PLATE
- **HARD ROCK CAFE YANKEE STADIUM** — GATE 6
- **LEGENDS SUITE CLUB** — ADJACENT TO GATE 4
- **MONUMENT PARK** — CENTER FIELD
- **PEPSI LOUNGE** — CENTER FIELD
- **SPORTS LOUNGE** — SECTION 134
- **YANKEES STEAKHOUSE (VIA ELEVATOR)** — ABOVE HARD ROCK CAFE AT GATE 6

AMENITIES

- ATM BANK OF AMERICA
- CASH TO CARD KIOSK
- ELEVATOR
- ESCALATOR
- FAMILY RESTROOM
- FIRST AID
- GUEST RELATIONS
- RAMP
- RESTROOM
- STAIRS
- TICKETS
- WATER FOUNTAIN
- WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE SEATING

CONCESSIONS

- **BEER** — SECTION 110
- **BEN & JERRY'S** — SECTION 125
- **BENIHANA** — SECTION 127
- **BOBBY'S BURGER PALACE** — SECTION 132
- **CITY WINERY** — SECTION 105
- **COCKTAIL BAR** — PEPSI FOOD COURT
- **GARLIC FRIES** — SECTION 108
- **JERSEY MIKE'S CHEESESTEAKS** — SECTION 107
- **KING'S HAWAIIAN GRILL** — SECTION 115
- **KOSHER*** — GREAT HALL
- **LOBEL'S** — SECTION 133
- **MIGHTY QUINN'S** — SECTION 132
- **NATHAN'S FAMOUS** — SECTION 127
- **OATLY** — SECTION 110
- **THE HALAL GUYS** — GREAT HALL
- **SABRETT** — SECTIONS 111 & 125
- **STREETBIRD** — SECTION 112
- **UBER EATS PICKUP** — SECTIONS 107 & 115
- **WINGS OF NY** — SECTION 109
- **YANKEE STADIUM GRAND SLAM SHAKES** — SECTIONS 112 & 125

*NOT AVAILABLE DURING FRIDAY NIGHT OR SATURDAY GAMES/EVENTS OR DURING GAMES/EVENTS THAT FALL ON CERTAIN RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS

CONCESSIONS, MERCHANDISE & AMENITIES

MAIN/BLEACHERS LEVELS

CONCESSIONS AND MERCHANDISE OFFERINGS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. VISIT YANKEES.COM FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION.

USE YOUR MASTERCARD AT YANKEE STADIUM CONCESSIONS STANDS.

MERCHANDISE

- **NEW ERA TEAM STORE** — BEHIND HOME PLATE
- **YANKEES MERCHANDISE** — SECTION 236

DESTINATIONS

- **DELTA SKY360°SUITE** — SECTIONS 218A-222
- **YES NETWORK TERRACE** — ADJACENT TO SECTION 238
- **MICHELOB ULTRA CLUBHOUSE** — ADJACENT TO SECTIONS 207 & 208
- **LEGACY CLUB BOOTH** — SECTION 221
- **NEW YORK YANKEES MUSEUM** — PRESENTED BY BANK OF AMERICA — ADJACENT TO SECTION 210
- **STELLA ARTOIS LANDING** — ADJACENT TO SECTION 232A & 232B
- **T-MOBILE FAN ZONE** — BEHIND HOME PLATE
- **TOYOTA TERRACE** — ADJACENT TO SECTION 202

AMENITIES

- CASH TO CARD KIOSK
- ELEVATOR
- ESCALATOR
- FAMILY RESTROOM
- FIRST AID
- GUEST RELATIONS
- RAMP
- RESTROOM
- STAIRS
- TICKETS
- WATER FOUNTAIN
- WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE SEATING

CONCESSIONS

- **BEER** — SECTIONS 206 & 226
- **BLUE POINT BLEACHER BAR** — SECTION 236
- **COCKTAILS** — SECTIONS 206 & 226
- **GOOD HUMOR** — BLEACHERS
- **HIGHLANDERS** — SECTION 233
- **KOSHER*** — SECTION 214A
- **MASTERCARD BATTER'S EYE DECK** — BLEACHERS
- **NATHAN'S FAMOUS** — SECTION 225
- **OATLY** — SECTIONS 205, 224 & BLEACHERS
- **PREMIO SAUSAGE/CRAFT BEER** — SECTION 217 & BLEACHERS (PREMIO SAUSAGE ONLY)
- **SUMO DOG** — BLEACHERS
- **TRIPLE PLAY GRILL** — SECTIONS 201 & 213
- **TRIPLE PLAY GRILL/GARLIC FRIES** — SECTION 205
- **UBER EATS PICKUP** — SECTIONS 213 & 224

*NOT AVAILABLE DURING FRIDAY NIGHT OR SATURDAY GAMES/EVENTS OR DURING GAMES/EVENTS THAT FALL ON CERTAIN RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS

CONCESSIONS, MERCHANDISE & AMENITIES

TERRACE/GRANDSTAND LEVEL

CONCESSIONS AND MERCHANDISE OFFERINGS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. VISIT YANKEES.COM FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION.

USE YOUR MASTERCARD AT YANKEE STADIUM CONCESSIONS STANDS.

MERCHANDISE

YANKEES MERCHANDISE
SECTIONS 308 & 330

DESTINATIONS

BUDWEISER PARTY DECKS
SECTIONS 311 & 328

JIM BEAM SUITE LOUNGE
BEHIND HOME PLATE

KIDS CLUBHOUSE PRESENTED BY PLYMOUTH ROCK ASSURANCE
ADJACENT TO SECTION 310

AMENITIES

- CASH TO CARD KIOSK
- ELEVATOR
- ESCALATOR
- FAMILY RESTROOM
- FIRST AID
- GUEST RELATIONS
- RAMP
- RESTROOM
- STAIRS
- TICKETS
- WATER FOUNTAIN
- WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE SEATING

CONCESSIONS

BEER
SECTIONS 312 & 322

BEN & JERRY'S
SECTION 318

COCKTAILS
SECTION 321

GARLIC FRIES
SECTION 331

GOOD HUMOR
SECTION 325

HIGHLANDERS
SECTIONS 305, 311, 318 & 325

KING'S HAWAIIAN GRILL
SECTION 334

LOBEL'S
SECTION 321

NATHAN'S FAMOUS
SECTION 313

OATLY
SECTIONS 305 & 318

PREMIO SAUSAGE/CRAFT BEER
SECTION 320

THE HALAL GUYS
SECTION 321

TRIPLE PLAY GRILL
SECTIONS 321 & 326

UBER EATS PICKUP
SECTIONS 318 & 324

The sooner you recognize the signs, the sooner you can help your child.

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ad COUNCIL

autism speaks

2022 SCHEDULE

APRIL

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7 1:05 YES BOS	8	9 4:05 YES BOS
10 7:05 ESPN BOS	11 7:05 YES TOR	12 7:05 YES TOR	13 7:05 YES TOR	14 7:05 YES TOR	15 7:05 YES BAL	16 7:05 YES BAL
17 1:05 YES BAL	18	19 6:40 YES DET	20 6:40 YES DET	21 1:10 YES DET	22 7:05 PRIME CLE	23 1:05 YES CLE
24 1:35 YES CLE	25	26 7:05 YES BAL	27 7:05 YES BAL	28 1:05 YES BAL	29 8:10 APPLE HC	30 7:10 YES HC

MAY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 2:10 YES HC	2 7:07 YES TOR	3 7:07 YES TOR	4 7:07 YES TOR	5	6 7:05 PRIME TEX	7 1:05 YES TEX
8 1:35 YES TEX	9	10 7:05 YES TOR	11 12:35 YES TOR	12 8:10 YES CWS	13 8:10 PRIME CWS	14 7:10 YES CWS
15 2:10 YES CWS	16 7:05 YES BAL	17 7:05 YES BAL	18 7:05 YES BAL	19 12:35 YES BAL	20 7:05 PRIME CWS	21 1:05 YES CWS
22 7:05 ESPN CWS	23 7:05 YES BAL	24 7:05 YES BAL	25 7:05 YES BAL	26 6:40 YES TB	27 7:10 PRIME TB	28 4:10 YES TB
29 1:40 YES TB	30	31 7:05 YES LAA				

JUNE

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 7:05 YES LAA	2 7:05 YES LAA	3 7:05 APPLE DET	4 1:05 YES DET
5 1:35 YES DET*	6	7 7:40 YES MIN	8 7:40 YES MIN	9 7:40 YES MIN	10 7:05 PRIME CHC	11 7:15 FOX CHC
12 1:35 YES CHC*	13	14 7:05 YES TB	15 7:05 YES TB	16 7:05 YES TB	17 7:07 YES TOR	18 3:07 YES TOR
19 1:37 YES TOR	20 7:10 YES TB	21 7:10 YES TB	22 7:10 YES TB	23 7:05 YES HOU	24 7:05 PRIME HOU	25 1:05 YES HOU
26 1:35 YES HOU*	27 7:05 YES OAK	28 7:05 YES OAK	29 1:05 YES OAK	30 8:10 YES HOU		

JULY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 7:10 PRIME CLE	2 6:10 YES CLE
3 1:40 YES CLE	4	5 7:05 YES PIT	6 7:05 YES PIT	7 7:10 YES BOS	8 7:10 PRIME BOS	9 7:18 FOX BOS
10 7:05 ESPN BOS	11	12 7:05 YES CIN	13 7:05 YES CIN	14 7:05 YES CIN	15 7:05 PRIME BOS	16 7:15 FOX BOS
17 1:35 YES BOS	18	19	20	21 1:10/6:40 YES HOU^	22 7:05 PRIME BAL	23 7:05 YES BAL
24 1:35 YES BAL	25	26 7:10 YES NYM	27 7:10 ESPN NYM	28 7:05 YES HC	29 7:05 PRIME HC	30 TBA YES HC
31 1:35 YES HC*						

AUGUST

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 7:05 YES SEA	2 7:05 YES SEA	3 1:05 YES SEA	4	5 8:15 PRIME STL	6 7:15 FOX STL
7 2:15 YES STL	8 10:10 YES SEA	9 10:10 YES SEA	10 4:10 YES SEA	11	12 7:10 YES BOS	13 7:15 FOX BOS
14 7:08 ESPN BOS	15 7:05 YES TB	16 7:05 PRIME TB	17 7:05 YES TB	18 7:05 YES TOR	19 7:05 PRIME TOR	20 1:05 YES TOR
21 1:35 YES TOR	22 7:05 YES NYM	23 7:05 PRIME NYM	24	25 9:40 YES OAK	26 9:40 PRIME OAK	27 9:07 YES OAK
28 4:07 YES OAK	29 9:38 YES LAA	30 9:38 YES LAA	31 9:38 YES LAA			

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2 7:10 YES TB	3 6:10 YES TB
4 1:40 YES TB	5 1:05 YES MIN	6 7:05 YES MIN	7 7:05 YES MIN	8 7:05 YES MIN	9 7:05 PRIME TB	10 1:05 YES TB
11 1:35 YES TB	12	13 7:10 YES BOS	14 7:10 YES BOS	15	16 8:10 PRIME MIL	17 7:10 YES MIL
18 2:10 YES MIL	19	20 7:05 YES PIT	21 7:05 YES PIT	22 7:05 YES BOS	23 7:05 PRIME BOS	24 1:05 YES BOS
25 7:05 ESPN BOS	26 7:07 YES TOR	27 7:07 YES TOR	28 7:07 YES TOR	29	30 7:05 PRIME BAL	1 1:05 YES BAL*
2 1:35 YES BAL	3 7:05 YES TEX	4 2:05/9:05 YES TEX^	5 TBA YES TEX			

HOME AWAY

ALL GAMES ARE P.M., EASTERN TIME.

^Split doubleheader

TIME, OPPONENT, DATE AND TEAM ROSTERS AND LINEUPS, INCLUDING THE YANKEES' ROSTER AND LINEUP, ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

*Listings noted with a red border and an asterisk (*) have game times subject to determination by, among others, MLB and its television partners. Any future start-time changes to these games will also be accompanied by a change in the television partner.

For Yankees ticket information, please visit yankees.com or call (212) YANKEES.

yankees.com yankeesbeisbol.com

Time, opponent, date, team rosters and lineups are subject to change.

The number of innings in a regulation game shall be determined by Major League Baseball and may be shortened in accordance with Major League Baseball rules. The Yankees make no representation, warranty and/or guarantee that nine (9) innings will be played in any regulation game.

The number of games in a regular season shall be determined by Major League Baseball. The Yankees make no representation, warranty and/or guarantee that a regular season will be comprised of eighty-one (81) home games.

Game times listed as TBD are subject to determination by, among others, Major League Baseball and its television partners.

For the 2022 regular season, "Premium Games" are the following games: (a) Opening Day home game; (b) all home games against the Boston Red Sox, Chicago Cubs and New York Mets; and (c) select Saturday home games on June 25, 2022, July 30, 2022 and Aug. 20, 2022.

All individual game ticket prices are subject to variable and dynamic pricing, which provide fans with more price options based on changing factors that affect market demand.

In no event will the Yankees be liable to the ticket holder and/or ticket purchaser for any direct, indirect, consequential, exemplary, incidental, special or punitive damages or for lost profits, revenues or business opportunities even if the Yankees have been advised of the possibility of such damages.

Be advised that the Yankees reserve the right to take appropriate action against individuals who fraudulently obtain wheelchair accessible and/or companion seats, including, without limitation, ejection and legal action.

Tickets may not be used for advertising, promotion (including contests, giveaways, or sweepstakes), charitable, trade or commercial purposes without the express written consent of the Yankees.

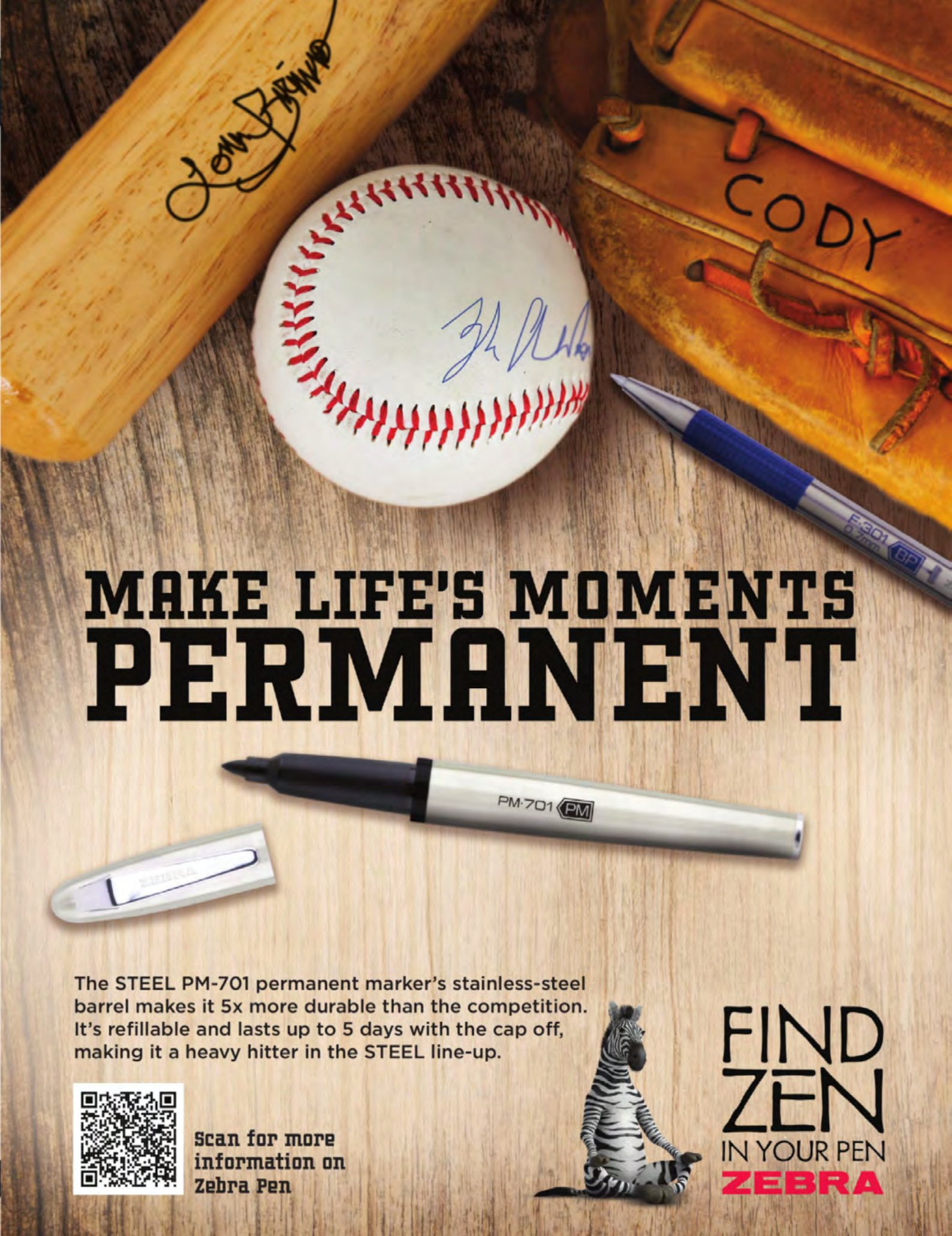
Please note that protective netting of varying heights is located between Section 011 on the first base/right field side of the Stadium and continues to Section 029 on the third base/left field side of the Stadium.

WARNING: For the safety of everyone in Yankee Stadium, all Guests must stay alert and be aware of their surroundings at all times, as during all batting practices, fielding practices and warm-ups and throughout the course of all baseball games and the baseball game experiences, hard-hit baseballs and bats and fragments thereof may be thrown or hit into the stands, concourses, walkways, concessions areas, Monument Park and all other publicly accessible areas within the Stadium. Further, Guests concerned with their original ticketed location by reason of the foregoing should, at any time before or during the baseball game or the baseball game experiences, proceed to the Guest Relations Booth, located adjacent to Gate B in the Great Hall or the Yankee Stadium Ticket Window, located adjacent to the Yankees Team Store behind home plate in the Great Hall; however, please remember that: (a) any requested relocation is subject to availability; (b) any alternate seat or standing location may be in a section and/or level of the Stadium and/or within a price category that is not in the same section and/or level and/or price category of the Guests' original ticketed location, regardless of their original ticketed location; and (c) any Guest requesting relocation is responsible for paying the incremental price increase, if any, of the ticket price for the available alternate location. Relocation to a seat or standing location at a lower price than the price of the original ticketed location will not result in a refund or credit.

WARNING: Guests may not transmit or aid in transmitting any photographs, images, videos, audio, livestreams or other accounts or descriptions (including play-by-play data), whether text, data or visual, in any media, now known or hereafter developed, of all or any part of the game or related events, without the express written consent of the Yankees.

NOTICE: For the safety of every Guest, all persons specifically consent to and are subject to: (a) being screened by metal detectors; (b) bag/clothing inspections; and (c) physical pat-down inspections prior to entry. Any item or property that could affect the safety of Yankee Stadium, its occupants or its property shall not be permitted into the Stadium. Any person that could affect the safety of the Stadium, its occupants or its property shall be denied entry.

NOTICE: The Yankees reserve the right, with or without refunding any amount paid by the ticket holder, to refuse admission to and/or eject any person who: (a) is or appears to be impaired; (b) conceals alcohol, illegal substances and/or other prohibited items while attempting to enter Yankee Stadium; (c) acts in a manner that is unruly, disruptive or illegal; (d) uses derogatory, foul and/or abusive language and/or gestures; (e) displays and/or wears and fails to cover obscene, indecent and/or inappropriate clothing; (f) exposes him/herself; (g) otherwise violates the Stadium's Code of Conduct, ordinances, rules, requirements, directives, regulations; or (h) interferes with any ball in the field of play or any sports or event participant attempting to make a play on any batted, pitched or thrown baseball. Ticket holders acknowledge and agree that the Yankees' ban on derogatory, foul and/or abusive language and/or gestures and obscene, indecent and/or inappropriate clothing (i.e., clauses (d) through (f) above) does not violate their right to free speech and/or expression and that such time, place and manner of the restrictions are reasonable to maintain a family-friendly atmosphere for minors, ensure the safety of all Guests and sports or event participants, and preserve the enjoyment of the game or event for all Guests. In addition, ticket holders further acknowledge and agree that by entering the Stadium, they hereby consent to the ban on derogatory, foul and/or abusive language and/or gestures and obscene, indecent and/or inappropriate clothing and waive, to the fullest extent they may legally and effectively do so, any objection they may now or hereafter have to such ban and the penalties that the Yankees may impose for any violation of the same.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2022 YANKEES PROMOTIONAL DATES

DATE	ITEM	DISTRIBUTION	PRESENTED BY
April 7	Opening Day Commemorative Ticket	All Guests	
April 14	Elston Howard Bobblehead Night	1st 18,000 Guests	Bank of America
April 22	Yankees Lightweight Hoodie Night	1st 18,000 Guests	Ford
April 24	Yankees Scooby Doo Bobblehead Day	1st 5,000 Guests 14 and younger	
May 6	Star Wars Night – Yankees Yoda Bobblehead Giveaway	1st 18,000 Guests	
May 8	Yankees Purse Day	1st 18,000 Guests 21 and older	
May 20	Andy Pettitte Bobblehead Night	1st 18,000 Guests	Delta Air Lines
June 3	Aaron Judge Bobblehead Day	1st 18,000 Guests	T-Mobile
June 11	MLB Play Ball Weekend – Yankees Arm Sleeve Night	1st 5,000 Guests 14 and younger	
July 29	Yankees Pint Glass Night	1st 18,000 Guests 21 and older	Budweiser
July 30	Old-Timers' Day Old-Timers' Day Commemorative Ticket	All Guests	
July 31	Yankees Collectible Ring Day	1st 18,000 Guests	Betteridge Jewelers
Aug. 2	Yankees Tote Bag Night	1st 10,000 Guests	MLB Network
Aug. 17	Cap Night	1st 18,000 Guests	Canon
Aug. 18	Visor Night	1st 18,000 Guests	Benjamin Moore
Aug. 19	John Sterling and Suzyn Waldman Talking Bobblehead Night	1st 10,000 Guests	WFAN
Aug. 20	Yankees Camo Cap Day	1st 18,000 Guests 21 and older	Budweiser
Aug. 21	Paul O'Neill Day – Commemorative Ticket Giveaway and No. 21 Jersey Retirement Ceremony	All Guests	
Sept. 9	Derek Jeter Hall of Fame Induction Tribute Night Derek Jeter Replica Hall of Fame Plaque Giveaway	1st 40,000 Guests	Bank of America
Sept. 10	Yankees Oris Bear Mug Day	1st 18,000 Guests	Oris
Sept. 30	Gerrit Cole Bobblehead Night	1st 18,000 Guests	T-Mobile

Purchasing a ticket for any promotional date does not guarantee that a Guest will receive the designated promotional item. Distribution of promotional items is for eligible Guests in attendance only, while supplies last. All promotional dates, items and distribution are subject to change and/or cancellation.

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